

# BIOL 830P Vaccines: Concepts and Controversies (3 Cr) Summer 2025

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\*FYI: The letter between the s and 2 is an L

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## *Office Hours*

I will be available Monday-Friday during the day from 8AM MST – 5PM MST to respond to questions via email, text, or phone. If I am unable to get back to you, I will try my best to respond with an estimated response time. If you want, you can also set up an appointment. During appointments, I will be available via phone or online face-to-face time via Zoom. Please send me an email to arrange an appointment. Your success in this course is important to me and part of that is accessibility to me. Therefore, if you have questions or concerns, do not hesitate to contact me!

## *Course Materials*

### **Required:**

**Deadly Choices:** How the Anti-Vaccine Movement Threatens Us All Reprint Edition (2012). Paul A. Offit. **ISBN-13:** 978-0465029624 **ISBN-10:** 0465029620

You will need to purchase, rent, or obtain a copy/ebook from a library of the book **Deadly Choices** by Author Dr. Paul Offit within the first week. This book is available on Amazon new or used in paperback, kindle, and as an e-book.

You will also be assigned journal articles and other readings to complete assignments during the course. These will be posted to our course Canvas site.

**Not required:** Below are books I recommend for those interested in an in-depth knowledge of Vaccinology

*Vaccinology: An Essential Guide* 1st Edition (2015). Milligan, Gregg N., Barrett, Alan D. T. **ISBN-13:** 978-0470656167 **ISBN-10:** 0470656166

*The Vaccine Book* 2nd Edition (2016). **Editors:** Barry R. Bloom Paul-Henri Lambert. **Paperback ISBN:** 9780128021743 **eBook ISBN:** 9780128054000

## *Canvas*

Our course Canvas site will be a repository for all things related to the class: lecture PPTs, assignments, additional readings, exams and resources. You should take time to become familiar with our course Canvas site.

## Course Description

In this course, we will cover the basic and advanced concepts related to vaccines and immunizations and how the immune system mounts responses to vaccines to establish protective immunity. We will discuss the different ways society views vaccines, paying attention to the current anti-vaccination movement, and how social media has impacted the spread of anti-vaccine propaganda. Importantly, we will investigate strategies on how to promote vaccination as an important tool to protect our society against disease. To obtain a deeper understanding of concepts and controversies related to vaccines, we will investigate current outbreaks, emerging epidemics and the future of vaccines.

## Course Objectives

The following objectives will be met upon successful completion of this course:

- Understand basic and advanced concepts related to vaccines and immunizations
- Investigate the immune response to vaccines and the protection against disease
- Explore various viewpoints about vaccines and immunization in our society
- Analyze and discuss findings of current vaccine development and immunization research

## Course Schedule

Please see the course calendar for the schedule for each Module (lectures, assignments, quizzes, discussion posts, and other important dates). You are responsible for completing each module by the assigned date and time.

## Attendance

### Course Policy:

As this is an online course, attendance means viewing all the lectures, reading the assigned material, and participating in the course. Failure to participate in the course to the best of your ability will result in lower comprehension of the course material and a lower grade. Weekly discussion boards will be assigned on topics from lecture and other course materials, so failure to participate in these discussions will significantly impact your ability to learn the material and perform well in this course.

### University Policy and Guidelines:

Student attendance in online courses is defined as active participation in the course. Online courses will, at a minimum, have weekly mechanisms for student participation, which will be documented by any or all the following methods: discussion board, assignments, quizzes, etc. Students are responsible for informing the instructor about their absence from class and for completing assignments given during their absence.

## Grading for BIOL 830P Vaccines: Concepts and Controversies

Assignments/Discussion	120 points
Mid-term Exam	100 points
Deadly Choices – Book & Discussion (60 pts x 2)	120 points
Case Study Final	<u>100 points</u>
TOTAL	440 points

The grading will be based on departmental policy as follows:

A+ (100-97%), A (96-93%), A- (92-90%), B+ (89-88%), B (87-83%), B- (82-80%), C+ (79-78%), C (77-73%), C- (72-70%), D+ (69-68%), D (67-63%), D- (62-60%), F below 60%.

All grading is performed in accord with departmental policy. Any violation(s) of academic honesty and integrity will result in the student's expulsion from the course and a grade of F will be assigned.

### *Coursework*

Discussion boards will be assigned throughout Module 2 on Canvas. These boards will be a great way to break down and dive deeper into course content. In each discussion, a new topic will be examined based on the topic we are covering. Instructions for how to participate in these discussions will be posted to Canvas.

### **Deadly Choices: How the Anti-Vaccine Movement Threatens Us All** Book & Discussion Group:

During the course you will be reading the book **Deadly Choices** by Dr. Paul Offit. Part of your grade will be participating in a discussion board about topics from the book and relevant to the anti-vaccination movement. More details about this will be provided on the course Canvas site.

Exam: The course will include a mid-term exam which will be open book/note.

Case Study Final: More details will be provided on the course Canvas site.

### *Assignment Policies*

Assignments will be submitted via links on Canvas or VoiceThread. For each assignment, I will provide details on what file type to upload. Most of the time this will be either a Word or PDF file. While I will accept files emailed to me, it is preferred for you to upload them to Canvas. Please name your files starting with your last name and assignment title (e.g. Rose Assignment 1)

**Late Assignments** will be accepted; however, any late assignment will carry a point deduction of 10% per day if it is late, and after 4 days (at the start of day 5), a zero will be given for the assignment.

**Make-up work.** If there is an extenuating circumstance that requires you to miss a due date, **please talk to me**. I will work with you if something happens due to unavoidable or legitimate circumstance.

### *Online Classroom Expectations*

The following guidelines will help you work more efficiently in this course. Please carefully review these guidelines and follow them.

1. You are expected to maintain academic integrity in this course according to the student academic standards. For further details look at: Undergraduate Student Policies and/or Graduate Student Policies OR keep reading below!
2. Keep up with the readings. You will have literature publications, modules, discussion postings, etc. to read for the class. As with any learning experience, the more you can put into reading, thinking, and applying the material in this course, the more you will get out of the course.

3. Be prepared to spend at least 6 – 9 hours per week working on this course. If you are less experienced with online learning, and/or less experienced with the content of this course, expect to spend more hours per week to participate fully.
4. Don't turn in late assignments. Late submissions will result in a lower grade (see policy above).
5. Work with others. You are required to make every effort to work effectively and promptly with others in your groups and discussion boards. Fair criticism of your failure to work effectively with others may significantly affect your collaboration and grade.

### *Academic Integrity Policy*

The maintenance of academic honesty and integrity is a vital concern to the University community. Any student found in violation of the standards of academic integrity may be subject to both academic and disciplinary sanctions. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, the following:

1. **Cheating.** Copying or attempting to copy from an academic test or examination of another student: using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information, notes, study aids or other devices for academic test, examination, or exercise; engaging or attempting to engage the assistance of another individual in misrepresenting the academic performance of a student; or communicating information in an unauthorized manner to another person for an academic test, examination or exercise.
2. **Fabrication and falsification.** Falsifying or fabricating any information or citation in any academic exercise, work, speech, test, or examination. Falsification is the alteration of information, while fabrication is the invention or counterfeiting of information.
3. **Plagiarism.** Presenting the work of another as one's own (i.e. without proper acknowledgment of the source) and submitting examinations, theses, reports, speeches, drawings, laboratory notes or other academic work in whole or in part as one's own when such work has been prepared by another person or copied from another person.
4. **Abuse of academic materials and/or equipment.** Destroying, defacing, stealing, or making inaccessible library or other academic resource material.
5. **Complicity in academic dishonesty.** Helping or attempting to help another student to commit an act of academic dishonesty.
6. **Falsifying grade reports.** Changing or destroying grades, scores, or markings on an examination or in an instructor's records.
7. **Misrepresentation to avoid academic work.** Misrepresentation by fabrication or otherwise justifiable excuse such as illness, injury, accident, etc., to avoid or delay timely submission of academic work or to avoid or delay the taking of a test or examination.
8. **Other Acts of Academic Dishonesty.** Academic units and members of the faculty may prescribe and give students prior written notice of additional standards of conduct for academic honesty in a course, and violation any such standard shall constitute the Code.