

BIOL 830P Vaccines: Concepts and Controversies (3 Cr) Summer 2020

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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. On Canvas, there is also a discussion board “Ask the Professor” for any questions you have. I check these periodically throughout the day and you can expect a response by the end of the day most of the time. 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 with video calling (Skype, Zoom, Facetime). Please send me an email to set up 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: You will be assigned journal articles and other readings to complete assignments during the course. These will be posted to our course Canvas site.

Required Hardware/Software: Students should refer to the following eCampus website to make sure you meet the minimum hardware/software and internet connection speed required by all UNK eCampus students. You will need to be equipped with a webcam and microphone to complete assignments in the course.

<http://www.unk.edu/academics/ecampus/resources-info/students/technology/requirements.php>

Canvas

Our course Canvas site will be a repository for all things related to the class: recorded lectures, lecture slides, assignments, exam helps, additional readings, links of interest, and your grade. You should take time to become familiar with our course Canvas site (via UNK website).

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 the current pandemic and the International “Race to a Vaccine”!

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 present 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

Pre-Course Voice Thread Assignment	30 points
Weekly Discussion participation (20 pts/week)	100 points
Case Study Assignments (50 pts/each)	150 points
Vaccine Research Presentation Project	150 points
Final Exam	<u>100 points</u>
TOTAL	530 points

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

Weekly Discussion boards will be assigned throughout the course on Canvas. These boards will be a great way to breakdown 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.

Case Study Assignments: More details about these assignments will be provided on the course Canvas site.

Vaccine Research Presentation Project: During the course you will choose and investigate a topic relevant to vaccines and/or immunizations. You will record and submit a 20-minute presentation using Voice Thread in addition to a 2-3-page Review paper on your findings. Part of your grade will be participating in a discussion board about the presentations. More details about this project will be provided on the course Canvas site.

Exams: The course will conclude with a final exam which will be open book/note.

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 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 an 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 behavior 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 of any such standard shall constitute the Code.

Under Section 2.9 of the Bylaws of the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska, the respective colleges of the University have responsibility for addressing student conduct solely affecting the college. Just as the task of inculcating values of academic honesty resides with the faculty, the college faculty are entrusted with the discretionary authority to decide how incidents of academic dishonesty are to be resolved. For more information, please visit UNK's *Procedures and Sanctions for Academic Integrity* (<https://www.unk.edu/offices/reslife/documents/academic-integrity-policy.pdf>) and the *Student Code of Conduct* (<https://www.unk.edu/offices/reslife/documents/university-of-nebraska-at-kearney-student-code-of-conduct.pdf>).

Students with Disabilities

It is the policy of the University of Nebraska at Kearney to provide flexible and individualized reasonable accommodation to students with documented disabilities. To receive accommodation services for a disability, students must be registered with UNK Disabilities Services for Students Office, 172 Memorial Student Affairs Building, 308-865-8988 or by email unkdso@unk.edu

Students Who are Pregnant

It is the policy of the University of Nebraska at Kearney to provide flexible and individualized reasonable accommodation to students who are pregnant. To receive accommodation services due to pregnancy, students must contact Cindy Ference in Student Health, 308-865-8219. The following link provides information for students and faculty regarding pregnancy rights. <http://www.nwlc.org/resource/pregnant-and-parenting-students-rights-faqs-college-and-graduate-students>

Reporting Student Sexual Harassment, Sexual Violence or Sexual Assault

Reporting allegations of rape, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, sexual harassment, and stalking enables the University to promptly provide support to the impacted student(s), and to take appropriate action to prevent a recurrence of such sexual misconduct and protect the campus community. Confidentiality will be respected to the greatest degree possible. Any student who believes she or he may be the victim of sexual misconduct is encouraged to report to one or more of the following resources:

Local Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault Advocacy Agency 308-237-2599

Campus Police (or Security) 308-865-8911

Title IX Coordinator 308-865-8655

Retaliation against the student making the report, whether by students or University employees, will not be tolerated.

If you have questions regarding the information in this email please contact Mary Chinnock Petroski, Chief Compliance Officer (petroskimj@unk.edu or phone 8400).