



A&M  
COMMERCE

**BSC 515 Cell Biology, CRN: 40376  
Summer I 2025**

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eCompanion Site:	<b>D2L Brightspace @ MyLeo</b>
Electronic Office hours:	<b>Tues and Thu 12 PM–1 PM</b> <b>Office hrs will be conducted via Zoom in D2L up on request via email.</b> Include BSC 515 Advanced Cell Biology in the subject.

**COURSE OVERVIEW:**

This course is designed for graduate students with a thorough background in biology and cell biology. Therefore, this course provides students with a greater understanding of molecular mechanisms of cellular function. Emphasis will be placed on internal organization and cooperative functions of cellular organelles. Understanding of basic methodologies used in cell biology will be sought.

**STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES (SLO):**

At the end of this course students will be able to:

1. Give a broad overview of the chemical basis of life and cellular mechanisms of protein functions regulation.
2. Understand the organization and protein and vesicular transport processes in cells.
3. Describe cytoskeleton and its role in cell migration and adhesion.
4. Describe cell cycle and various cellular death process including necrosis, apoptosis and autophagy

**TEXTBOOK MOLECULAR BIOLOGY OF CELL by Alberts, 7<sup>th</sup> Edition, ISBN:  
9780393884821**

While you may use this as a reference book, readings of additional materials (will be provided) are necessary for the successful completion of this course.

We will cover a lot of the subject matter presented in this book, but not necessarily in order. Chapter assignments are listed on the Course Schedule. For some topics, this book presents more detail than needed; however, it omits some topics that will be discussed in the course.

**INSTRUCTION METHOD**

This syllabus is a suggested outline. It represents the minimum material that we will cover in this course. Dates are approximate and subject to change. If there is any major changes to the syllabus it will be posted as an announcement on D2L and the syllabus will be updated accordingly. You are

responsible for keeping up with any changes made to the syllabus. *You may be tested on any material listed in the syllabus, on your class page and discussed in class.*

**Web-Based Course:** The structure of this course is predicated at student reading. Considering enormous volume of information available in Stem Cell Biology field, it is impossible to cover everything in a course. ***Since it is an online graduate level course lot of self learning will be involved. Additionally, because of the short duration of a summer course, a minimum of two chapters and associated work will be covered per week. This means a considerable amount of time needed to be spent on in integrating the materials that been covered in this course.*** I have selected these chapters to provide a thorough understanding in gene regulation. PowerPoint slides, additional reading materials as well as activities will be included to help your learning. Your progress in this course will be measured using weekly quizzes, problem solving assignments, and three exams including a final. You may monitor your progress in D2L Gradebook.

**How to Succeed in the Class:** For successful course completion, your active and timely participation is essential. As an online class on Stem Cell Biology, I expect that you have a background in cell biology. You must read chapters prescribed for each week and go through additional lecture materials, assignments and activities. From my prior experience, exchanging e-mails are poor strategies of online learning, therefore, ***I encourage to clear any questions that you may have during electronic office hours via the “Zoom” feature available in D2LBrightspace.***

**Class Policies:** In this online class, students are required to be self-learners and self-directed. The fact that you might be taking several online classes and working full time may put additional pressure on you, but it would not be considered as a reason for diluting the rigor of this course. **This class will keep the rigor, time line, and standards of a face-to-face class.**

**E-mail and Communication:** If you are e-mailing me please use your university e-mail account and put BSC 515, Advanced Cell Biology in subject line. If you use an e-mail account without an “.edu” extension, it may end up in my spam folder. During work days, I will respond to e-mails within 24 – 48 hrs and e-mails received on weekends will be responded on the next working day. Most of the correspondence will be announced on the course homepage, therefore check course homepage in D2LBrightspace as-often-as possible.

**Electronic Office Hours:** You may access office hours on Tues and Thu 12 PM–1 PM CST. Office hours will be online via Zoom upon email request.

**Lecture Materials:** Power Point slides that I use for delivering lectures in face-to-face course will be made available in D2L (Brightspace). ***Note that lecture slides must not be treated as lecture notes. You may use it as a reference or guide to read the book but not as study material. If you use PowerPoint slides as the main source for your study, you may not perform well in tests. Materials provided in this course including lecture slides are copyrighted and must not share them without obtaining permission.***

**Grading Policy for Graduate Students:**

2 exams including the final	600 points (60%)
Online Quizzes	150 points (15%)
Problem Solving Assignments	250 points (25%)
Total	1000 points (100%)

**Grading Scale:**

A = 900 to 1000 points (>90%)

B = 800 to 899 points (80% to 89.9%)

C = 700 to 799 points (70% to 79.9%)

D = 600 to 699 points (60% to 69.9%) F = 599 or fewer (<59.9%)

### Overview of Assignments:

**Online quizzes (150 points):** Throughout the term of this course, several quizzes will be assigned online and you need to complete them in D2L Brightspace. These quizzes will consist of either T/F, multiple choice, matching and/or short answer questions. Once you complete them on review date you will be able to see answer key. Quizzes are submitted on or before the due date will be graded. After the due date you won't be able to access quizzes and if you miss them there won't be any make up quizzes.

**Problem Solving Assignments (250 points of total):** Throughout the duration of this course several problems solving questions will be assigned, which will be due in a week after they were assigned. It works for your advantage to solve these problems by yourself, which will increase your success in weekly quizzes and later in exams. Solving problems will augment concepts covered in lectures and help you retain them. Also, some of these questions may serve as the basis for multiple choices and for short answer questions of exams. To receive credits, it is **mandatory to upload a typed copy of the solved problems in D2L in .doc or .docx format on or before its due dates. Hand written copies would not be accepted and** late submissions or problem sets submitted by any other means (E-mail) won't be evaluated.

**Exams and Grades:** For this course there will be two exams including a final (200 points each, or 20% each) throughout the term. Exam questions will test critical thinking, analytical ability, and the understanding of subject matter. Therefore, it is important to understand the concepts. If you miss an exam for reasons other than university-approved emergencies, make up exams would not be provided.

**To calculate where you stand:** You can find out up-to-date information from the gradebook in D2L. To manually calculate, find the average of your exam score. To this add your final score of assignments, which will be your total score in 1000. Calculate the percentage. This will be your grade.

### Course Calendar/Exam Schedule

Units	Date	Chapters & Subject Matter
Unit 1	Week 1 June 02 – June 06	Review of Cells and Organelles Chapter 1 (Development of Cell Theory and Functions of various cell organelles)
Unit 2.1		Review of biomolecules: Carbon, Water, amino acids, and protein Chapters 2 & 3 (Protein, Carbohydrates, Lipids, and Nucleic Acids)
Unit 2.2		Review of Macromolecules: Carbohydrates, Lipids, and Nucleic Acids Chapters 2 & 3 (Protein, Carbohydrates, Lipids, and Nucleic Acids)
Unit 3	Week 2 June 09 – June 13	Review of Bioenergetics and Enzymes (Chapter 2)
Unit 4		Review of Genetic code and Translation Chapter 6 (RNA to Protein)
Midterm, July 24 <sup>th</sup> (Wednesday) 2024		
Unit 5	Week 3 June 16 – June 20	Regulation of Protein Function Chapter 3 (Protein Function)

Unit 6		Protein Sorting Chapter 12
Unit 7	Week 4 June 23 – Jun 27	Vesicular Transport and Secretion Chapter 13
Unit 8		Cell-Cell and Cell-Matrix adhesion Chapter 20 of the Edition 7, 19 in edition 6
Final Exam, July 1 <sup>st</sup> , Tuesday		

### **Sample Study Week:**

Step 1–Download lecture slides and supporting materials from D2L.

Step 2–**Critically** read chapters and supporting materials, make notes (*simply going through the materials are not going to be enough, focus on concepts, molecular mechanisms etc..*)

Step 3–Complete assignments and upload into D2L by due date.

Step 4–Review materials and your notes and participate in officer hours to clear any questions that you may have.

Step 5–Take online quizzes in D2L when they are due.

Step 6–Review again before the test due date and take online tests.

**Academic Integrity:** A Texas A&M University-Commerce student does not lie, cheat, steal, and does not tolerate those who do. A violation of the Texas A&M honor code and academic integrity involves any of the following offenses: cheating, fabrication, falsification, multiple submissions, plagiarism, and complicity in any of these offenses. The first instance of cheating will result in "ZERO" on the exam and/or on the assignment. The second instance of cheating will result in "ZERO" on the course. Cheating involves copying information from another student, non-allowable materials or source and plagiarism. Once again, violations of academic integrity will not be tolerated. This class will be conducted in strict observance of the Honor Code. Refer to your Student Handbook for details.

**Conduct Policy:** All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. (See Student's Guide Handbook, Policies and Procedures, Conduct).

**Behavior:** *All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment." (See Student's Guide Handbook, Policies and Procedures, Conduct).*

<http://www.tamuc.edu/academics/universityCollege/successCoaches/default.aspx>

**Plagiarism:** Plagiarism is a criminal activity. You must cite all sources of information. Unreferenced and non-paraphrased copying of material, whether parts of sentences, whole sentences, paragraphs, or entire articles can result in a score of zero for your assignment and may result in further disciplinary action.

**Piracy:** *Materials provided in this course including lecture slides are copy righted and must not share them without obtaining permission.*

**Students with Disabilities/Reasonable Accommodation:** *The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact: Office of Student Disability Resources and Services, Texas A&M University-Commerce*

*Gee Library, Room 132*

*Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835*

*Fax (903) 468-8148*

*[StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu](mailto:StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu)*

***If you have not taken a course in e-College before, please use the tutorial provided for students in D2L. It will save you a lot of time and frustration and a lot faster than trial and error.***

## **ACCESS AND NAVIGATION**

### ***D2L Brightspace Access and Log in Information***

This course will be facilitated using D2L Brightspace, the learning management system used by Texas A&M University-Commerce. To get started with the course, go to [myLeo](#) and from App window select [MyLeoOnline \(D2L Brightspace\) App](#). From home menu choose your course.

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or [helpdesk@tamuc.edu](mailto:helpdesk@tamuc.edu).

**Note:** It is strongly recommended you perform a “Browser Test” prior to the start of your course.

## **TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS**

### **Browser support**

D2L is committed to performing key application testing when new browser versions are released. New and updated functionality is also tested against the latest version of supported browsers. However, due to the frequency of some browser releases, D2L cannot guarantee that each browser version will perform as expected. If you encounter any issues with any of the browser versions listed in the tables below, contact D2L Support, who will determine the best course of action for resolution. Reported issues are prioritized by supported browsers and then maintenance browsers.

Supported browsers are the latest or most recent browser versions that are tested against new versions of D2L products. Customers can report problems and receive support for issues. For an optimal experience, D2L recommends using supported browsers with D2L products.

Maintenance browsers are older browser versions that are not tested extensively against new versions of D2L products. Customers can still report problems and receive support for critical issues; however, D2L does not guarantee all issues will be addressed. A maintenance browser becomes officially unsupported after one year.

Note the following:

Ensure that your browser has JavaScript and Cookies enabled.

For desktop systems, you must have Adobe Flash Player 10.1 or greater.

The Brightspace Support features are now optimized for production environments when using the Google Chrome browser, Apple Safari browser, Microsoft Edge browser, Microsoft Internet Explorer browser, and Mozilla Firefox browsers.

### Desktop Support

Browser	Supported Browser Version(s)	Maintenance Browser Version(s)
Microsoft® Edge	Latest	N/A
Microsoft® Internet Explorer®	N/A	11
Mozilla® Firefox®	Latest, ESR	N/A
Google® Chrome™	Latest	N/A
Apple® Safari®	Latest	N/A

### Tablet and Mobile Support

Device	Operating System	Browser	Supported Browser Version(s)
Android™	Android 4.4+	Chrome	Latest
Apple	iOS®	Safari, Chrome	<p>The current major version of iOS (the latest minor or point release of that major version) and the previous major version of iOS (the latest minor or point release of that major version). For example, as of June 7, 2017, D2L supports iOS 10.3.2 and iOS 9.3.5, but not iOS 10.2.1, 9.0.2, or any other version.</p> <p>Chrome: Latest version for the iOS browser.</p>

<b>Windows</b>	<b>Windows 10</b>	<b>Edge, Chrome, Firefox</b>	<b>Latest of all browsers, and Firefox ESR.</b>
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- You will need regular access to a computer with a broadband Internet connection. The minimum computer requirements are:
  - 512 MB of RAM, 1 GB or more preferred
  - Broadband connection required courses are heavily video intensive ○ Video display capable of high-color 16-bit display 1024 x 768 or higher resolution
- You must have a:
  - Sound card, which is usually integrated into your desktop or laptop computer
  - Speakers or headphones.
  - \*For courses utilizing video-conferencing tools and/or an online proctoring solution, a webcam and microphone are required.
- Both versions of Java (32 bit and 64 bit) must be installed and up to date on your machine. At a minimum Java 7, update 51, is required to support the learning management system. The most current version of Java can be downloaded at: [JAVA web site](http://www.java.com/en/download/manual.jsp)  
<http://www.java.com/en/download/manual.jsp>
- Current anti-virus software must be installed and kept up to date.

Running the browser check will ensure your internet browser is supported.

Pop-ups are allowed.

JavaScript is enabled.

Cookies are enabled.

- You will need some additional free software (plug-ins) for enhanced web browsing. Ensure that you download the free versions of the following software:
  - [Adobe Reader](https://get.adobe.com/reader/)  
<https://get.adobe.com/reader/>
  - [Adobe Flash Player](https://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/) (version 17 or later) <https://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/>
  - [Adobe Shockwave Player](https://get.adobe.com/shockwave/) <https://get.adobe.com/shockwave/> ○ [Apple Quick Time](http://www.apple.com/quicktime/download/) <http://www.apple.com/quicktime/download/>
- At a minimum, you must have Microsoft Office 2013, 2010, 2007 or Open Office. Microsoft Office is the standard office productivity software utilized by faculty, students, and staff. Microsoft Word is the standard word processing software, Microsoft Excel is the standard spreadsheet software, and Microsoft PowerPoint is the standard presentation software. Copying and pasting, along with attaching/uploading documents for assignment submission, will also be required. If you do not have Microsoft Office, you can check with the bookstore to see if they have any student copies.

## **ACCESS AND NAVIGATION**

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or [helpdesk@tamuc.edu](mailto:helpdesk@tamuc.edu).

**Note:** Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup

method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a TAMUC campus open computer lab, etc.

## **COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT Brightspace Support**

### **Need Help?**

#### **Student Support**

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor.

#### **Technical Support**

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778 or click on the **Chat** or click on the words “[click here](#)” to submit an issue via email.



#### **System Maintenance**

Please note that on the 4th Sunday of each month there will be System Maintenance which means the system will not be available 12 pm-6 am CST.

## **COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT**

All e-mail received during normal business hours will be replied within 48 hrs and e-mails received during weekends will be responded on the following Monday.

## **COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES**

### **Syllabus Change Policy**

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

### **University Specific Procedures**

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the [Student Guidebook](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/documents/studentGuidebook.pdf>

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum: [Netiquette http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html](http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html)

### **TAMUC Attendance**

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the [Attendance](#) webpage and [Procedure 13.99.99.RO.01](#). <http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx>



<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.01.pdf>

## **Academic Integrity**

Students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

[Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.10](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/graduate/13.99.99.R0.10GraduateStudentAcademicDishonesty.pdf> **Students with Disabilities**

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

## **Office of Student Disability Resources and Services**

Texas A&M University-Commerce Gee Library- Room 132

Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: [Rebecca.Tuerk@tamuc.edu](mailto:Rebecca.Tuerk@tamuc.edu)

Website: [Office of Student Disability Resources and Services](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/>

Texas A&M University-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

## **Campus Concealed Carry Statement**

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun.

Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and

A&MCommerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the [Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](#) document and/or consult your event organizer.

Web url: <http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>

***Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.***