

# Study Tips for Dr. Weigum's BIO1330 Course

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## I. General Guidelines

- A. Set reasonable expectations for time investment  
For all college courses, typically 2-3 hours of studying per week are required per course hour
- *BIO1330 is a 3 hour course, so you should expect to spend 6-9 hours per week studying in addition to attending the 3 hr. class time*
- B. Establish a schedule and maintain a calendar
- *Block off time in your schedule at least 2 days per week for BIO1330 and other academic courses*
  - *Often this is most productive after each class period (i.e. Tue/Thurs evenings or Wed/Fri mornings)*
- C. Utilize your resources effectively, including but not limited to:
1. Lecture outlines
  2. Lecture slides
  3. Classroom discussions and example test questions
  4. Textbook
  5. Mastering Biology – tutorials/extra-credit, glossary
  6. Exam study guides
  7. Supplemental Instruction – student-lead study sessions
  8. [SLAC open tutorial hours](#)
- D. Focus on applying concepts which goes beyond straight memorization  
This requires establishing a base knowledge of terms, structures, and/or processes **then** being able to apply them into an unknown or unfamiliar situation
- E. Don't forget important dates!
- Quizzes are important...in BIO1330 they make up a full test grade, so this is a great opportunity for an open book and open note point grab!
  - **DON'T BE LATE FOR AN EXAM!** You will not be allowed to take the exam if you arrive after any other student has turned in their exam and left the lecture hall

## II. Specific Study Tips

- A. Suggested Weekly Activities
- Read lecture outlines and slides before each class period; view figures listed and read figure legends in your textbook
  - Attend class; take notes using lecture slides provided

- Review lecture slides (no more than two lectures at any one sitting) and follow-up in your textbook by reading specific sections, terms, processes, or concepts that you did not initially understand; take more notes in different pen color
- Complete the Mastering Biology tutorials/extra-credit activities relating to the materials covered this week
- Attend at least one SI session or SLAC open tutoring hour; ask questions about any unresolved issues; if necessary, follow-up during instructor's office hours with specific questions

B. One Week before Each Exam

- **Complete remaining Mastering Biology tutorials/extra-credit** - free grade points that are intended to help you study, so don't miss out!
- Go through the exam study guide one question/task at a time
  - a) *Please remember that this is a GUIDE! The topics listed will be covered on the exam, but not likely in the same format or wording, so avoid short answer responses*
  - b) *Utilize all of your materials to complete this task...review the stated TOPIC using the outlines, slides, textbook, notes, etc. one question at a time*
- Avoid simply reading through individual materials start-to-finish covering the entire exam material...break it up piece by piece (topic-by-topic) across your multiple resources
  - c) *Think to yourself...if you read the chapter outlines for chapters 1-6 start-to-finish, how much do you remember about chapter 1 when you are finished more than 1 hr. later?*
  - d) *Rather, if you focus on one concept and read it across the outline, textbook, slides, etc. for 10-15 min. you are more likely to remember the details later...like on an exam, or more importantly in later courses!*
- Review the "Test your Understanding" section at the end of each chapter/section. These questions often provide experience with applying concepts and if you get stuck, you can work backwards from the answers in the appendix.