

Molecular and Cell Biology: Neurobiology

Bachelor of Arts (BA)

The major in Molecular and Cell Biology: Neurobiology emphasis focuses on the study of the brain and nervous system, which consist of the cells and tissues that generate sensation, perception, movement, learning, emotion, and many of the functions that make us human. In the past decades, neurobiological research has made tremendous advances in understanding how this complex organ works, and what goes wrong in neurological disease. Neurobiology is intrinsically multidisciplinary, spanning from molecular biology and gene regulation in neurons, to chemical and electrical signaling in neurons, to information processing by neural circuits and brain regions, to nervous system development and plasticity. Knowledge at each of these levels is merged to generate a mechanistic, molecular-to-systems level understanding of animal and human behavior. Active research areas in neurobiology include: What is the genetic program that makes a neuron? Can new neurons be created to treat disease? How do ion channels work that mediate electrical signaling in neurons? How do synapses work, and how do they store information during learning? How do networks of neurons process information and perform computations for behavior? How does the brain develop, and how is it specialized through evolution to generate species-specific behavior? Why do neurons die in neurodegenerative disease, and how can they be saved?

Recent research advances within the division include understanding how voltage-gated ion channels function, development of new optical approaches to monitor and control activity in specific neurons, how taste sensation works in *Drosophila*, how neural activity is homeostatically controlled via novel gene regulation pathways, how the retina and cerebral cortex processes sensory information, and how sensory use alters synapses to store sensory information in the brain. Overall, 55 faculty at Berkeley (in MCB and other departments) conduct neurobiology research, reflecting the diversity and importance of this field within modern biology.

The Molecular and Cell Biology: Neurobiology emphasis prepares students for careers in medicine, including in medical specialties involving the nervous system (neurology, pharmacology, psychiatry, neuropsychiatry, ophthalmology, otolaryngology, optometry), in scientific research in neurobiology (postgraduate study), in biotechnology (including technical and research oriented careers), and in other biology-related careers (nursing, pharmacy, physical therapy). All Neurobiology majors receive essential coursework in molecular and cell biology, as well as rigorous training in specific neurobiology courses. We are distinguished from other MCB emphases by the multilevel, multidisciplinary approach, and by the focus on the brain. We are distinguished from psychology and cognitive science by emphasizing a mechanistic, molecular, cellular, and circuit-level understanding of behavior and disease.

Minor Program

There is no minor program in Molecular and Cell Biology.

Other Molecular and Cell Biology Majors (Emphases)

Biochemistry & Molecular Biology (<http://guide.berkeley.edu/archive/2018-19/undergraduate/degree-programs/molecular-cell-biology-biochemistry>) (BMB)

Cell and Developmental Biology (<http://guide.berkeley.edu/archive/2018-19/undergraduate/degree-programs/molecular-cell-biology-developmental>) (CDB)

Genetics, Genomics, & Development (<http://guide.berkeley.edu/archive/2018-19/undergraduate/degree-programs/molecular-cell-biology-genetics>) (GGD)

Immunology & Pathogenesis (<http://guide.berkeley.edu/archive/2018-19/undergraduate/degree-programs/molecular-cell-biology-immunology>) (IMP)

Declaring the Major

MCB is not an impacted major. Therefore, the program will accept any interested student who meets the minimum course and GPA requirements and is realistically able to complete the major requirements during the student's time at UC Berkeley.

In order to declare the MCB major, students must have completed or be enrolled in BIOLOGY 1A/BIOLOGY 1AL (C or better on first midterm) and CHEM 3B (past the early drop deadline), have at least a 2.0 overall GPA, a 2.0 GPA in the courses taken for the major, a 2.0 GPA in any upper division courses taken for the major, and know which emphasis they will declare. Intended MCB students are not required to have completed the math or physics requirement at the time of declaration (though the requirement must be met in order to graduate).

To start the major declaration process, students must fill out the MCB major declaration form online (<https://mcb.berkeley.edu/internal/uao/declaration>).

Once the declaration form has been processed, students will receive an email with instructions to come in to meet with a staff advisor. Students should bring a printed copy of their Academic Summary from CalCentral to the Undergraduate Advising Office (3060 Valley Life Sciences Building) to discuss their academic plan. When signing in, students should inform the intake adviser that they declared online. Please note that major declarations are limited during the first week of class and the first week of course enrollment Phase 1. Any restrictions will be advertised on the MCB undergraduate homepage (<https://mcb.berkeley.edu/undergrad>) and in the weekly MCB-News email.

General Guidelines

In addition to the University, campus, and college requirements, listed on the College Requirements tab, students must fulfill requirements specific to their major program and declared emphasis.

1. All courses taken to fulfill the major requirements below must be taken for letter graded credit.
2. No more than one upper division course may be used to simultaneously fulfill requirements for a student's major and minor programs. Double majors and simultaneous degrees are limited to a two course overlap.
3. Students must maintain a minimum grade point average (GPA) of at least a 2.0 GPA overall, a 2.0 GPA in the required major coursework (lower and upper division), and a 2.0 GPA in the upper division coursework for the major.

For information regarding residence requirements and unit requirements, please see the College Requirements tab.

Lower Division Requirements

Math 10A/10B is the preferred math sequence, but the MCB major will also accept Math 1A/1B

| | | |
|------------------|---|---|
| MATH 10A | Methods of Mathematics: Calculus, Statistics, and Combinatorics | 4 |
| MATH 10B | Methods of Mathematics: Calculus, Statistics, and Combinatorics | 4 |
| MATH 1A | Calculus [4] | |
| MATH 1B | Calculus [4] | |
| CHEM 1A & 1AL | General Chemistry and General Chemistry Laboratory ¹ | 5 |
| CHEM 3A & 3AL | Chemical Structure and Reactivity and Organic Chemistry Laboratory ² | 5 |
| CHEM 3B & 3BL | Chemical Structure and Reactivity and Organic Chemistry Laboratory ² | 5 |
| BIOLOGY 1A & 1AL | General Biology Lecture and General Biology Laboratory | 5 |
| BIOLOGY 1B | General Biology Lecture and Laboratory | 4 |
| PHYSICS 8A | Introductory Physics ³ | 4 |
| PHYSICS 8B | Introductory Physics ³ | 4 |

¹ CHEM 4A may be taken place of CHEM 1A and CHEM 1AL.

² CHEM 12A and CHEM 12B may be taken place of CHEM 3A/3AL and CHEM 3B/3BL.

³ PHYSICS 7A and PHYSICS 7B can be taken in place of PHYSICS 8A and PHYSICS 8B.

Upper Division Requirements

| | | |
|------------------------------|--|-----|
| MCELLBI 102 | Survey of the Principles of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology | 4 |
| MCELLBI 104 | Genetics, Genomics, and Cell Biology | 4 |
| MCELLBI 160 | Cellular and Molecular Neurobiology | 4 |
| MCELLBI 161 | Circuit, Systems and Behavioral Neuroscience | 4 |
| MCELLBI 160L | Neurobiology Laboratory | 4 |
| or MCELLBI 163L | Mammalian Neuroanatomy Lab | |
| One NEU Elective (see below) | | 3-4 |

Approved NEU Electives List

| | | |
|---------------------------|---|---|
| BIO ENG 121 | BioMEMS and Medical Devices | 4 |
| COG SCI/ PSYCH C127 | Cognitive Neuroscience | 3 |
| INTEGBI 139 | The Neurobiology of Stress | 4 |
| INTEGBI C143A/ PSYCH C113 | Biological Clocks: Physiology and Behavior | 3 |
| INTEGBI C143B/ PSYCH C116 | Hormones and Behavior | 3 |
| INTEGBI C144/ ESPM C126 | Animal Behavior | 4 |
| MATH 110 | Linear Algebra | 4 |
| MATH 127 | Mathematical and Computational Methods in Molecular Biology | 4 |
| MATH 128A | Numerical Analysis | 4 |

| | | |
|--|--|---|
| MATH 128B | Numerical Analysis | 4 |
| MCELLBI C100A/ CHEM C130 | Biophysical Chemistry: Physical Principles and the Molecules of Life | 4 |
| MCELLBI 130 | Cell and Systems Biology | 4 |
| MCELLBI 132 | Biology of Human Cancer | 4 |
| MCELLBI 135A | Topics in Cell and Developmental Biology: Molecular Endocrinology | 3 |
| MCELLBI 136 | Physiology | 4 |
| MCELLBI 137L | Physical Biology of the Cell | 3 |
| MCELLBI 141 | Developmental Biology | 4 |
| MCELLBI 150 | Molecular Immunology | 4 |
| MCELLBI 160L | Neurobiology Laboratory (allowed only if MCB 163 is used as lab requirement) | 4 |
| MCELLBI 163L | Mammalian Neuroanatomy Lab (allowed only if MCB 160L is used as lab requirement) | 4 |
| MCELLBI 165 | Neurobiology of Disease | 3 |
| MCELLBI 166 | Biophysical Neurobiology | 3 |
| PHYSICS 112 | Introduction to Statistical and Thermal Physics | 4 |
| PSYCH 117 | Human Neuropsychology | 3 |
| PB HLTH C129 | Course Not Available | 3 |
| PB HLTH 141 | Introduction to Biostatistics | 5 |
| Students who completed math requirements other than Math 10A/10B are eligible to use the following courses as an elective: | | |
| PB HLTH 142 | Introduction to Probability and Statistics in Biology and Public Health | 4 |
| STAT 131A | Statistical Methods for Data Science | 4 |

Undergraduate students must fulfill the following requirements in addition to those required by their major program.

For detailed lists of courses that fulfill college requirements, please review the College of Letters & Sciences (<http://guide.berkeley.edu/archive/2018-19/undergraduate/colleges-schools/letters-science>) page in this Guide. For College advising appointments, please visit the L&S Advising (<https://ls.berkeley.edu/advising/about-undergraduate-advising-services>) Pages.

University of California Requirements

Entry Level Writing (<http://writing.berkeley.edu/node/78>)

All students who will enter the University of California as freshmen must demonstrate their command of the English language by fulfilling the Entry Level Writing requirement. Fulfillment of this requirement is also a prerequisite to enrollment in all reading and composition courses at UC Berkeley.

American History and American Institutions (<http://guide.berkeley.edu/archive/2018-19/undergraduate/colleges-schools/letters-science/american-history-institutions-requirement>)

The American History and Institutions requirements are based on the principle that a US resident graduated from an American university, should have an understanding of the history and governmental institutions of the United States.

Berkeley Campus Requirement

American Cultures (<http://americancultures.berkeley.edu/students/courses>)

All undergraduate students at Cal need to take and pass this course in order to graduate. The requirement offers an exciting intellectual environment centered on the study of race, ethnicity and culture of the United States. AC courses offer students opportunities to be part of research-led, highly accomplished teaching environments, grappling with the complexity of American Culture.

College of Letters & Science Essential Skills Requirements

Quantitative Reasoning (<http://guide.berkeley.edu/archive/2018-19/undergraduate/colleges-schools/letters-science/quantitative-reasoning-requirement>)

The Quantitative Reasoning requirement is designed to ensure that students graduate with basic understanding and competency in math, statistics, or computer science. The requirement may be satisfied by exam or by taking an approved course.

Foreign Language (<http://guide.berkeley.edu/archive/2018-19/undergraduate/colleges-schools/letters-science/foreign-language-requirement>)

The Foreign Language requirement may be satisfied by demonstrating proficiency in reading comprehension, writing, and conversation in a foreign language equivalent to the second semester college level, either by passing an exam or by completing approved course work.

Reading and Composition (<http://guide.berkeley.edu/archive/2018-19/undergraduate/colleges-schools/letters-science/reading-composition-requirement>)

In order to provide a solid foundation in reading, writing, and critical thinking the College requires two semesters of lower division work in composition in sequence. Students must complete parts A & B reading and composition courses by the end of their second semester and a second-level course by the end of their fourth semester.

College of Letters & Science 7 Course Breadth Requirements

Breadth Requirements (<http://guide.berkeley.edu/archive/2018-19/undergraduate/colleges-schools/letters-science/#breadthrequirementstext>)

The undergraduate breadth requirements provide Berkeley students with a rich and varied educational experience outside of their major program. As the foundation of a liberal arts education, breadth courses give students a view into the intellectual life of the University while introducing them to a multitude of perspectives and approaches to research and scholarship. Engaging students in new disciplines and with peers from other majors, the breadth experience strengthens interdisciplinary connections and context that prepares Berkeley graduates to understand and solve the complex issues of their day.

Unit Requirements

- 120 total units
- Of the 120 units, 36 must be upper division units

- Of the 36 upper division units, 6 must be taken in courses offered outside your major department

Residence Requirements

For units to be considered in "residence," you must be registered in courses on the Berkeley campus as a student in the College of Letters & Science. Most students automatically fulfill the residence requirement by attending classes here for four years. In general, there is no need to be concerned about this requirement, unless you go abroad for a semester or year or want to take courses at another institution or through UC Extension during your senior year. In these cases, you should make an appointment to meet an adviser to determine how you can meet the Senior Residence Requirement.

Note: Courses taken through UC Extension do not count toward residence.

Senior Residence Requirement

After you become a senior (with 90 semester units earned toward your BA degree), you must complete at least 24 of the remaining 30 units in residence in at least two semesters. To count as residence, a semester must consist of at least 6 passed units. Inter-campus Visitor, EAP, and UC Berkeley-Washington Program (UCDC) units are excluded.

You may use a Berkeley Summer Session to satisfy one semester of the Senior Residence requirement, provided that you successfully complete 6 units of course work in the Summer Session and that you have been enrolled previously in the college.

Modified Senior Residence Requirement

Participants in the UC Education Abroad Program (EAP), Berkeley Summer Abroad, or the UC Berkeley Washington Program (UCDC) may meet a Modified Senior Residence requirement by completing 24 (excluding EAP) of their final 60 semester units in residence. At least 12 of these 24 units must be completed after you have completed 90 units.

Upper Division Residence Requirement

You must complete in residence a minimum of 18 units of upper division courses (excluding UCEAP units), 12 of which must satisfy the requirements for your major.

The sample plans below show a four-year plan for completing the major with emphasis in neurobiology, taking classes only during fall and spring semesters. All of the lower division classes are offered during the summer as well.

Please note that the sample plans below include only courses required for your major. For more detailed information regarding other requirements, including unit minimums per semester, Letters & Science Breadth requirements, Reading and Composition (R&C), and the American Cultures (AC) requirements, please see the College Requirements tab.

Sample Program Plan: Fall Freshman

Example of program for students beginning in the fall semester of freshman year.

| | | | | Freshman | |
|---------------|------|-------|------------------|----------|--|
| | Fall | Units | Spring | Units | |
| MATH 10A | | 4 | MATH 10B | 4 | |
| CHEM 1A & 1AL | | 4 | BIOLOGY 1A & 1AL | 5 | |
| | | 8 | | 9 | |

| Sophomore | | | | |
|--------------------------------|------|-------|--------------------------------|-------|
| | Fall | Units | Spring | Units |
| CHEM 3A & 3AL | | 5 | CHEM 3B & 3BL | 5 |
| BIOLOGY 1B | | 4 | PHYSICS 8A | 4 |
| | | 9 | | 9 |
| Junior | | | | |
| | Fall | Units | Spring | Units |
| MCELLBI 160 | | 4 | MCELLBI 161 | 4 |
| PHYSICS 8B | | 4 | MCELLBI 102 | 4 |
| | | 8 | | 8 |
| Senior | | | | |
| | Fall | Units | Spring | Units |
| MCELLBI 104 | | 4 | MCELLBI 160L (or NEU Elective) | 4 |
| MCELLBI 163L (or NEU Elective) | | 4 | | |
| | | 8 | | 4 |
| Total Units: 63 | | | | |

Sample Program Plan, Spring Start

Example of program beginning in the spring semester of freshman year (e.g., FPF or Global Edge).

| Freshman | | | | |
|---------------------|------|-------|---------------------|-------|
| | Fall | Units | Spring | Units |
| MATH 1A | | 4 | MATH 1B | 4 |
| | | | CHEM 1A & 1AL | 4 |
| | | 4 | | 8 |
| Sophomore | | | | |
| | Fall | Units | Spring | Units |
| BIOLOGY 1A & 1AL | | 5 | CHEM 3A & 3AL | 5 |
| PHYSICS 8A | | 4 | BIOLOGY 1B | 4 |
| | | 9 | | 9 |
| Junior | | | | |
| | Fall | Units | Spring | Units |
| CHEM 3B & 3BL | | 5 | MCELLBI 102 | 4 |
| PHYSICS 8B | | 4 | NEU Elective | 3-4 |
| | | 9 | | 7-8 |
| Senior | | | | |
| | Fall | Units | Spring | Units |
| MCELLBI 160 | | 4 | MCELLBI 161 | 4 |
| MCELLBI 163L or 104 | | 4 | MCELLBI 104 or 160L | 4 |
| | | 8 | | 8 |
| Total Units: 62-63 | | | | |

Sample Program Plan, Transfers

Example of program plan for students planning to transfer to Berkeley after completing all the lower division requirements.

| Junior | | | | |
|-------------|------|-------|-------------|-------|
| | Fall | Units | Spring | Units |
| MCELLBI 160 | | 4 | MCELLBI 161 | 4 |
| | | | MCELLBI 102 | 4 |
| | | 4 | | 8 |

| Senior | | | | |
|--------------------------------|------|-------|--------------------------------|-------|
| | Fall | Units | Spring | Units |
| MCELLBI 104 | | 4 | MCELLBI 160L (or NEU Elective) | 4 |
| MCELLBI 163L (or NEU Elective) | | 4 | | |
| | | 8 | | 4 |
| Total Units: 24 | | | | |

Mission

The Department of Molecular and Cell Biology (MCB) is a large department that is subdivided into five divisions: Biochemistry, Biophysics, and Structural Biology (BBS); Cell and Developmental Biology (CDB); Genetics, Genomics and Development (GGD); Immunology and Pathogenesis (IMMP); and Neurobiology (NEU). All MCB students complete the same lower division coursework to gain critical training in biology, mathematics, chemistry, and physics. All or most lower division coursework is completed before major declaration. Upon declaring the major, MCB students choose an emphasis, or specialization, which determines the upper division core courses they will take and elective choices from which they will choose. Students can choose among several areas of specialization; emphases are broadly defined along divisional lines and allow students to focus on a more defined topic within MCB. MCB students who elect to participate in independent research may choose from sponsoring research laboratories within any MCB division, or in laboratories outside the department (other Berkeley departments, LBNL, CHORI, UCSF, biotechnology companies). The MCB major provides excellent preparation for many careers and postbaccalaureate training programs, including graduate programs and health-related professional programs (e.g., medicine, dentistry, optometry, pharmacy), science writing, law school, biotechnology, teaching, and academic research.

Learning Goals for the Major

- 1. Describe basic biological concepts and principles.
- 2. Appreciate the different levels of biological organization, from molecules to ecosystems.
- 3. Understand that biology has a chemical, physical, and mathematical basis.
- 4. Explain the importance of the scientific method to understanding natural phenomena.
- 5. Effectively communicate scientific data and ideas, both orally and in writing.
- 6. Critically evaluate data, develop a hypothesis, and design experiments to address an interesting and novel problem.
- 7. Demonstrate advanced knowledge in a specialized field of molecular and cell biology.

MCB offers three types of undergraduate advising: staff advisers, faculty advisers, and peer advisers.

Staff Advisers

Staff academic advisers are trained to support students and assist them in successfully completing their MCB major. They are excellent resources for questions concerning administration and academics, or finding out about other available services. Students should see a staff adviser for the following:

- Ask questions about major requirements.
- Ask advice about schedule planning.

- Declare the MCB major.
- Consult about research opportunities, graduate and professional schools, career opportunities, scholarships, and internships.
- Get information and course control numbers (CCN's) for independent research.
- Request general assistance, advice or information.
- Find out about upcoming events and programs.

Staff advisers are primarily available for drop-in advising, though limited appointments are available for more complex issues such as probation, academic difficulty and readmission. If students would like to schedule an appointment, they should call 510-643-8895 during drop-in advising hours.

The general email address is mcbuao@berkeley.edu which is checked daily, Monday through Friday, so students will receive an answer to questions within one business day.

Faculty Advisers

Faculty advisers are MCB professors assigned to advise students about the MCB department, its courses, research, and other academic issues. Students typically first meet with a faculty adviser when they declare an MCB major. Students should see their faculty advisers for the following:

- Receive guidance toward achieving academic and career goals.
- Ask questions about the content of MCB courses.
- Ask questions about biological research and about the field of biology in general.
- Ask for recommendations on which graduate schools to attend.
- Review and approve major declaration plan after speaking with a UAO staff adviser.

For a list of advisers and their office hours, please see the department's website (<http://mcb.berkeley.edu/undergrad/advising/advising-office/advising-services>). Office hours listed are designated for drop-in advising unless otherwise noted. Faculty adviser office hours are effective from the first day of instruction until the final day of instruction for the fall and spring semesters. Faculty advisers are not available for office hours during winter or summer break. Students may refer to staff drop-in advising hours during summer sessions and non-instructional periods.

Peer Adviser Walk-in Services (PAWS)

Peer advisers are junior and senior MCB majors who volunteer their time to complement the UAO advising services by sharing their knowledge of and experience with lower division requirements and upper division classes, experience with student groups on campus, preparation for life beyond the BA, and use of various campus resources. To see the schedule and more information about who the peer advisers are and which courses they have taken, click here (<http://mcb.berkeley.edu/undergrad/advising/advising-office/peer-advising>).

Undergraduate Research

Under the guidance of a faculty member and/or research mentor, undergraduates in the MCB major may have the opportunity to work in a laboratory to gain valuable experience in scientific research. Interested students must take the initiative to make such arrangements. Over forty percent of MCB majors work in a lab to gain valuable experience in scientific research. To get started, students should talk with classmates, peer advisers, a staff undergraduate adviser, graduate student instructors (GSIs), and faculty about their interest

in learning more about laboratory research. For more information on research, see How to Find a Lab Position (<http://mcb.berkeley.edu/undergrad/research/research/lab>).

Benefits of research:

- Science is a way to figure things out, so doing research will aid students in other aspects of their life. Students will ask and answer open ended questions and link seemingly disconnected pieces of information to find results that were not predicted.
- Explore things at the cutting edge and that no one has explored before.
- Learn tenacity, problem solving, and to be critical about the details because things have to be reproducible.
- Solve mysteries and experience the excitement of discovery.

Students may receive academic credit for their work by enrolling in an independent study course: MCELLBI 99/MCELLBI 199 or MCELLBI H196A/MCELLBI H196B. Enrollment applications are due in the Undergraduate Advising Office by the fifth week of each semester.

Honors Program

The MCB honors program offers exceptional senior students recognition for outstanding academic achievement and excellence in research. To graduate with honors in the major, students must satisfy the following:

1. Complete at least two credited semesters of research including four to eight units of MCELLBI H196A and/or MCELLBI H196B (Honors Research).
2. Have a cumulative Berkeley grade point average (GPA) of at least 3.3 in all work completed at UC Berkeley.
3. Have at least a 3.5 GPA in the MCB major requirements or 3.5 GPA in MCB upper division courses.
4. Present their research in an approved forum, such as an MCB symposium, the Undergraduate Poster Session, or other scientific meeting.
5. Write an honors thesis approved by an MCB faculty sponsor.

Additional information on the honors program is available in the Undergraduate Affairs Office and on the MCB website (<http://mcb.berkeley.edu/undergrad/major/honors-program/honors>).

Other Research Opportunities

For additional resources for information regarding research opportunities, please see the links below:

Undergraduate Research Apprentice Program (URAP) (<http://research.berkeley.edu/urap>)
 Scholarship Connection (<http://scholarships.berkeley.edu>)
 Summer Research Opportunities (<http://mcb.berkeley.edu/undergrad/research/research/summer-research>)
 Office of Research (<http://vcresearch.berkeley.edu/faculty-expertise>)

Funding for Student Research

There are a variety of ways to support your research. The department recommends attending a workshop at the Office of Undergraduate Research (<http://research.berkeley.edu>) or looking for funding opportunities on their website (<http://research.berkeley.edu/opportunities>) or the Scholarship Connection website (<http://scholarships.berkeley.edu>).

Molecular and Cell Biology: Neurobiology

Expand all course descriptions [+]Collapse all course descriptions [-]

MCELLBI 15 Current Topics in the Biological Sciences 2 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2020, Spring 2019, Spring 2018

Students in this course will critically examine modern methods of biological investigations and their social implications. Relevant literature will be used to present basic biological concepts that address the cultural, technological and health aspects of current topics in the biological sciences. Designing and evaluating scientific questions will be stressed. Current Topics in the Biological Sciences: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Suitable for freshmen who plan to major in a biological science

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit when topic changes.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of lecture and 1 hour of discussion per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Molecular and Cell Biology/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam not required.

Instructor: Matsui

Current Topics in the Biological Sciences: Read Less [-]

MCELLBI C31 Big Ideas in Cell Biology 3 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2014, Spring 2012

An introduction for students who do not intend to major in biology but who wish to satisfy their breadth requirement in Biological Sciences. Some major concepts of modern biology, ranging from the role of DNA and the way cells communicate, to interactions of cells and creatures with their environment, will be discussed without jargon and with attention to their relevance in contemporary life and culture.

Big Ideas in Cell Biology: Read More [+]

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of lecture and 1 hour of discussion per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Molecular and Cell Biology/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Instructor: Wilt

Also listed as: L & S C30X

Big Ideas in Cell Biology: Read Less [-]

MCELLBI 32 Introduction to Human Physiology 3 Units

Terms offered: Summer 2020 8 Week Session, Fall 2019, Summer 2019 8 Week Session

A comprehensive introduction to human biology. The course will concentrate on basic mechanisms underlying human life processes, including cells and membranes; nerve and muscle function; cardiovascular, respiratory, renal, and gastrointestinal physiology; metabolism, endocrinology, and reproduction.

Introduction to Human Physiology: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: One year high school or college chemistry

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture and 1 hour of discussion per week

Summer: 8 weeks - 6 hours of lecture and 2 hours of discussion per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Molecular and Cell Biology/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Instructor: Ball

Introduction to Human Physiology: Read Less [-]

MCELLBI 32L Introduction to Human Physiology Laboratory 2 Units

Terms offered: Summer 2020 Second 6 Week Session, Fall 2019, Summer 2019 Second 6 Week Session

Experiments and demonstrations are designed to amplify and reinforce information presented in 32. Exercises include investigations into the structure and function of muscle, nerve, cardiovascular, renal, respiratory, endocrine, and blood systems.

Introduction to Human Physiology Laboratory: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: 32 or may be taken concurrently

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 1 hour of lecture and 3 hours of laboratory per week

Summer:

6 weeks - 2 hours of lecture and 8 hours of laboratory per week

8 weeks - 2 hours of lecture and 6 hours of laboratory per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Molecular and Cell Biology/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam not required.

Instructor: Ball

Introduction to Human Physiology Laboratory: Read Less [-]

MCELLBI 38 Stem Cell Biology, Ethics and Societal Impact 3 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2020, Spring 2019, Spring 2018

Innovations in bioengineering and use of stem cells will significantly impact our ability to combat human disease, genetic disorders and physiological dysfunction. An understanding of human stem cell biology will be critical to make informed decisions on our health and public policy. Stem Cell Biology, Ethics and Societal Impact: [Read More](#) [+]

Rules & Requirements

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit with instructor consent.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture and 1 hour of discussion per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Molecular and Cell Biology/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Instructors: Firestone, Ball

Stem Cell Biology, Ethics and Societal Impact: [Read Less](#) [-]

MCELLBI 41 Genetics and Society 3 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2016, Spring 2013, Summer 2012 8 Week Session

Basic communication of inheritance; gene mapping; gene expression and genetic disease in animals and humans; social inheritance of genetics. Genetics and Society: [Read More](#) [+]

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Primarily for students not specializing in biology

Credit Restrictions: Students will receive no credit for Molecular and Cell Biology 41 after completing Biology 1A, Biology 1B, or Letters and Science 18.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of lecture and 1 hour of discussion per week

Summer:

6 weeks - 7.5 hours of lecture per week

8 weeks - 6 hours of lecture and 2 hours of discussion per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Molecular and Cell Biology/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Genetics and Society: [Read Less](#) [-]

MCELLBI C44 Biology for Voters 3 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2017, Spring 2015, Spring 2014

This is a Discovery Course for non-Biology majors designed to introduce lower-division college students to biology through the lens of the contemporary problems facing people, the planet and the species of the planet. Modern genetic contributions will be presented on such issues as genetic engineering of plants and animals, the emergence of new pathogens, the role of genetic variation among individuals, and the extent to which DNA is and isn't destiny. Each week will close with the presentation and discussion of a defining biological challenge facing the world.

Biology for Voters: [Read More](#) [+]

Objectives Outcomes

Student Learning Outcomes: The learning objectives will be, at one end, to understand what an experiment is, how is it controlled and what does one need to know about an experiment to be able to rely upon any conclusion. That is the fundamental issue in all science, and is frequently overlooked in many media accounts of science. A second objective is to learn enough of the language of biology to be able to ask the kind of informed questions that we would want all elected representatives to pay attention to. A third objective is for students to cultivate confidence that through non-specialized information sources they can become informed consumers of contemporary scientific thought, and to develop those habits of intellect to think about evidence in a scientific manner. A fourth objective is for students to enjoy the abundance of high quality books, articles and multimedia that will enable a lifetime of discovery outside the structure of a college course.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture and 1 hour of discussion per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Molecular and Cell Biology/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Instructors: Rine, Urnov

Also listed as: L & S C30Y

Biology for Voters: [Read Less](#) [-]

MCELLBI 50 The Immune System and Disease 4 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2020, Spring 2019, Spring 2018

Course will discuss how the immune system resolves, prevents, or causes disease. A general overview of the immune system will be covered in the first five weeks followed by five weeks discussing infectious diseases including anthrax, mad cow, herpes, malaria, tuberculosis, and HIV. In addition, other lectures will focus on current immunology topics including vaccines, autoimmunity, allergy, transplantation, and cancer.

The Immune System and Disease: [Read More](#) [+]

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: High school chemistry or Chemistry 1A and high school biology or Biology 1A. Biology 1AL is not required

Credit Restrictions: Students will receive no credit for Molecular and Cell Biology 50 after completing Molecular and Cell Biology 102, C100A/Chemistry C130, or Chemistry 135.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture and 1 hour of discussion per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Molecular and Cell Biology/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Instructor: Beatty

The Immune System and Disease: [Read Less](#) [-]

MCELLBI 55 Plagues and Pandemics 3 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2019, Fall 2018, Fall 2017

Discussion of how infectious agents cause disease and impact society at large. We will examine historical and current examples of plagues and pandemics and consider the question of what we should do to ameliorate the impact of infectious disease in the future. The course is intended for non-majors and will begin by briefly providing necessary background in microbiology and immunology. The primary focus in each subsequent week, however, will be on discussing a particular infectious disease. The course will be broad in scope covering biological, historical, ethical and social implications of each disease.

Plagues and Pandemics: [Read More](#) [+]

Rules & Requirements

Credit Restrictions: Students will receive no credit for Molecular and Cell Biology 55 after completing Molecular and Cell Biology 100, C100A/Chemistry C130,, 100B, 102, 103, C103/Plant and Microbial Biology C103/Public Health C102, 150, or Chemistry 135.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Molecular and Cell Biology/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Instructors: Beatty, Vance

Plagues and Pandemics: [Read Less](#) [-]

MCELLBI C61 Brain, Mind, and Behavior 3 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2020, Spring 2019, Spring 2018

Introduction to human brain mechanisms of sensation, movement, perception, thinking, learning, memory, and emotion in terms of anatomy, physiology, and chemistry of the nervous system in health and disease. Intended for students in the humanities and social sciences and others not majoring in the biological sciences.

Brain, Mind, and Behavior: [Read More](#) [+]

Rules & Requirements

Credit Restrictions: Students will receive no credit for Molecular and Cell Biology/Psychology C61 after taking Molecular and Cell Biology 61, N61, W61, Molecular and Cell Biology 104, C100A/Chemistry C130, Molecular and Cell Biology 110, 130A, 136, 160, C160/Neuroscience C160 or Integrative Biology 132. A deficient grade in Molecular and Cell Biology 61, N61, or W61 can be removed with Molecular and Cell Biology C61. Students cannot credit for both MCELLBI/PSYCH C61 AND Psych 110.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture and 1 hour of discussion per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Molecular and Cell Biology/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Instructor: Presti

Also listed as: PSYCH C61

Brain, Mind, and Behavior: [Read Less](#) [-]

MCELLBI W61 Brain, Mind, and Behavior 3 Units

Terms offered: Summer 2020 First 6 Week Session, Summer 2019 First 6 Week Session, Summer 2018 First 6 Week Session

This course deals with the structure and function of the human nervous system, with an emphasis on how brain physiology and chemistry are related to human behavior. This is a comprehensive introduction to the exciting field of contemporary neuroscience for students of all backgrounds and interests, including those from the humanities and social sciences, as well as physical and biological sciences. The Final Examination will be administered in a proctored setting. See Schedule of Classes for meeting information. This course is web-based.

Brain, Mind, and Behavior: [Read More](#) [+]

Rules & Requirements

Credit Restrictions: Students will receive no credit for MCELLBI/PSYCH W61 after taking MCELLBI 61, N61, C61, MCELLBI 104, C100A/Chemistry C130, MCELLBI 110, 130A, 136, 160, C160/Neuroscience C160 or Integrative Biology 132. A deficient grade in MCELLBI 61, N61, OR C61 can be removed with W61. Students cannot credit for both MCELLBI/PSYCH C61 AND Psych 110.

Hours & Format

Summer: 6 weeks - 7 hours of web-based lecture and 2.5 hours of web-based discussion per week

Online: This is an online course.

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Molecular and Cell Biology/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Instructor: Presti

Brain, Mind, and Behavior: [Read Less](#) [-]

MCELLBI C62 Drugs and the Brain 3 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2019, Fall 2018, Fall 2017

The history, chemical nature, botanical origins, and effects on the human brain and behavior of drugs such as stimulants, depressants, psychedelics, analgesics, antidepressants, antipsychotics, steroids, and other psychoactive substances of both natural and synthetic origin. The necessary biological, chemical, and psychological background material for understanding the content of this course will be contained within the course itself.

Drugs and the Brain: [Read More](#) [+]

Rules & Requirements

Credit Restrictions: Students will receive no credit for Molecular and Cell Biology C62/Letters and Science C30T after completing Molecular and Cell Biology C100A/Chemistry C130, 104, 110, 130, 136, 160 Integrative Biology 132.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture and 1 hour of discussion per week

Summer: 8 weeks - 4.5 hours of lecture and 2 hours of discussion per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Molecular and Cell Biology/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam not required.

Instructor: Presti

Also listed as: L & S C30T

Drugs and the Brain: [Read Less](#) [-]

MCELLBI 63 Introduction to Functional Neuroanatomy 3 Units

Terms offered: Summer 2020 Second 6 Week Session, Summer 2019 Second 6 Week Session, Summer 2018 Second 6 Week Session

This course emphasizes beginning anatomy of the brain and spinal cord to individuals interested in understanding the dynamics of motor and sensory functions in the human body. Students in the Departments of Education, Psychology, and Integrative Biology, as well as students interested in medicine and the life sciences, are especially encouraged to attend.

Introduction to Functional Neuroanatomy: [Read More](#) [+]

Rules & Requirements

Credit Restrictions: Students will receive no credit for Molecular and Cell Biology 63 after completing Molecular and Cell Biology 104, C100A/Chemistry C130, Molecular and Cell Biology 110, 130A, 136, 160, 161, C160/Neuroscience C160 or Integrative Biology 132.

Hours & Format

Summer:

4 weeks - 12 hours of lecture per week

6 weeks - 7.5 hours of lecture per week

8 weeks - 6 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Molecular and Cell Biology/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Introduction to Functional Neuroanatomy: [Read Less](#) [-]

MCELLBI 63L Introduction to Neuroanatomy Lab 2 Units

Terms offered: Summer 2020 Second 6 Week Session, Summer 2019 Second 6 Week Session

This lab course is an introduction to mammalian neuroanatomy for non-MCB majors. We will do dissections, explore physical anatomical models, and observe microscopic structures within preserved brain slices from a variety of mammalian species. The hands-on exploration of anatomy is key to understanding how the different functional regions of the nervous system are interconnected. Besides gaining a better understanding of anatomy, you will gain important scientific skills such as conducting parts of a neurological exam, fluorescent and light microscopy, reading MRI scans and conducting fine dissections. The course will culminate with a group project using the online Allen Brain Atlas to investigate a novel scientific question.

Introduction to Neuroanatomy Lab: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: MCELLBI 63 (may be taken concurrently) or equivalent

Credit Restrictions: Students will receive no credit for Molecular and Cell Biology 63L after taking Molecular and Cell Biology 160L or 163L

Hours & Format

Summer: 6 weeks - 8 hours of laboratory per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Molecular and Cell Biology/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Alternative to final exam.

Instructor: Ball

Introduction to Neuroanatomy Lab: Read Less [-]

MCELLBI C64 Exploring the Brain: Introduction to Neuroscience 3 Units

Terms offered: Summer 2020 8 Week Session, Summer 2019 8 Week Session, Summer 2018 8 Week Session

This course will introduce lower division undergraduates to the fundamentals of neuroscience. The first part of the course covers basic membrane properties, synapses, action potentials, chemical and electrical synaptic interactions, receptor potentials, and receptor proteins. The second part of the course covers networks in invertebrates, memory and learning behavior, modulation, vertebrate brain and spinal cord, retina, visual cortex architecture, hierarchy, development, and higher cortical centers.

Exploring the Brain: Introduction to Neuroscience: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: High school chemistry or Chemistry 1A; high school biology or Biology 1A. Biology 1AL is not required

Credit Restrictions: Students will receive no credit for Molecular and Cell Biology/Psychology C64 after taking Molecular and Cell Biology C61/ Letters and Science C30W, Molecular and Cell Biology C104, 100A/ Chemistry C130, Molecular and Cell Biology 110, 130A, 136, 160, C160/ Neuroscience C160, or Integrative Biology 132. Students may remove a deficient grade in Molecular and Cell Biology C64/Psychology C64 after Molecular and Cell Biology 64.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of lecture and 1 hour of discussion per week

Summer: 8 weeks - 4 hours of lecture and 2 hours of discussion per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Molecular and Cell Biology/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Instructor: Caporale

Also listed as: PSYCH C64

Exploring the Brain: Introduction to Neuroscience: Read Less [-]

MCELLBI 84B Sophomore Seminar 1 or 2 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2013, Spring 2013, Fall 2012

Sophomore seminars are small interactive courses offered by faculty members in departments all across the campus. Sophomore seminars offer opportunity for close, regular intellectual contact between faculty members and students in the crucial second year. The topics vary from department to department and semester to semester. Enrollment limited to 15 sophomores.

Sophomore Seminar: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: At discretion of instructor

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 1-2 hours of seminar per week

Summer:

6 weeks - 4-6 hours of seminar per week

8 weeks - 3-4 hours of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Molecular and Cell Biology/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: The grading option will be decided by the instructor when the class is offered. Final exam required.

Sophomore Seminar: Read Less [-]

MCELLBI 88 Immunotherapy of Cancer: Success and Failures 2 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2018, Spring 2017

We will work with a variety of datasets that describe a molecular view of cells and how they divide. We will learn about the processes that cause cells to become specialized (differentiate) and to give rise to cancer (transform). We will analyze data on genetic mutations in cancer that distinguish tumor cells from normal cells. We will learn how mutations are detected by the immune system and the basis of cancer immunotherapy. Finally we will analyze data on clinical trials of cancer immunotherapy to define the correlates of success in curing the disease. The students are expected to gain an understanding of data that reveals the basics of cell physiology and cancer, how immunotherapies of cancer work and their current limitations.

Immunotherapy of Cancer: Success and Failures: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Foundations of Data Science: COMPSCI C8, DATASCI C8, INFO C8 or STAT C8

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 1 hour of lecture and 1 hour of laboratory per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Molecular and Cell Biology/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Alternative to final exam.

Instructor: Shastri

Immunotherapy of Cancer: Success and Failures: Read Less [-]

MCELLBI 90A Freshman Seminars: Biochemistry and Molecular Biology 1 Unit

Terms offered: Fall 2019, Fall 2018, Fall 2017

The Berkeley Seminar Program has been designed to provide new students with the opportunity to explore an intellectual topic with a faculty member in a small-seminar setting. Berkeley Seminars are offered in all campus departments, and topics vary from department to department and semester to semester. Final assessment to be decided by the instructor when the class is offered.

Freshman Seminars: Biochemistry and Molecular Biology: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Open to freshmen only

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 1 hour of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Molecular and Cell Biology/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: The grading option will be decided by the instructor when the class is offered. Alternative to final exam.

Freshman Seminars: Biochemistry and Molecular Biology: Read Less [-]

MCELLBI 90B Freshman Seminars: Cell and Developmental Biology 1 Unit

Terms offered: Spring 2018, Fall 2017, Fall 2016

The Berkeley Seminar Program has been designed to provide new students with the opportunity to explore an intellectual topic with a faculty member in a small-seminar setting. Berkeley Seminars are offered in all campus departments, and topics vary from department to department and semester to semester. Final assessment to be decided by the instructor when the class is offered.

Freshman Seminars: Cell and Developmental Biology: Read More [\[+\]](#)

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Open to freshmen only

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 1 hour of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Molecular and Cell Biology/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: The grading option will be decided by the instructor when the class is offered. Alternative to final exam.

Freshman Seminars: Cell and Developmental Biology: Read Less [\[-\]](#)

MCELLBI 90C Freshman Seminars: Genetics and Development 1 Unit

Terms offered: Fall 2019, Fall 2018, Fall 2016

The Berkeley Seminar Program has been designed to provide new students with the opportunity to explore an intellectual topic with a faculty member in a small-seminar setting. Berkeley Seminars are offered in all campus departments, and topics vary from department to department and semester to semester. Final assessment to be decided by the instructor when the class is offered.

Freshman Seminars: Genetics and Development: Read More [\[+\]](#)

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Open to freshmen only

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 1 hour of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Molecular and Cell Biology/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: The grading option will be decided by the instructor when the class is offered. Alternative to final exam.

Freshman Seminars: Genetics and Development: Read Less [\[-\]](#)

MCELLBI 90D Freshman Seminars: Immunology 1 Unit

Terms offered: Fall 2019, Fall 2018, Fall 2017

The Berkeley Seminar Program has been designed to provide new students with the opportunity to explore an intellectual topic with a faculty member in a small-seminar setting. Berkeley Seminars are offered in all campus departments, and topics vary from department to department and semester to semester. Final assessment to be decided by the instructor when the class is offered.

Freshman Seminars: Immunology: Read More [\[+\]](#)

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Open to freshmen only

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 1 hour of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Molecular and Cell Biology/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: The grading option will be decided by the instructor when the class is offered. Alternative to final exam.

Freshman Seminars: Immunology: Read Less [\[-\]](#)

MCELLBI 90E Freshman Seminars: Neurobiology 1 Unit

Terms offered: Spring 2020, Fall 2019, Spring 2019

The Berkeley Seminar Program has been designed to provide new students with the opportunity to explore an intellectual topic with a faculty member in a small-seminar setting. Berkeley Seminars are offered in all campus departments, and topics vary from department to department and semester to semester. Final assessment to be decided by the instructor when the class is offered.

Freshman Seminars: Neurobiology: Read More [\[+\]](#)

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Open to freshmen only

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 1 hour of seminar per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Molecular and Cell Biology/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: The grading option will be decided by the instructor when the class is offered. Alternative to final exam.

Freshman Seminars: Neurobiology: Read Less [\[-\]](#)

MCELLBI C95B Introduction to the Biotechnology Field and Industry: Impact, History, Therapeutics R&D, Entrepreneurship and Careers 2 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2019

This course offers an introduction to the field of biotechnology and will cover the history of the field, its impact on medicine and society, key methodologies, important therapeutic areas, and the range of career options available in the biopharmaceutical industry. In addition to lectures on innovation and entrepreneurship, students will hear from lecturers with expertise ranging from molecular biology to clinical trial design and interpretation. Several case studies of historically impactful scientists, entrepreneurs, and biotherapeutic companies will be presented. Students will work in teams to create and develop novel biotechnology company ideas to present in class. Intended for students interested in the Biology +Business program.

Introduction to the Biotechnology Field and Industry: Impact, History, Therapeutics R&D, Entrepreneurship and Careers: Read More [+]

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Molecular and Cell Biology/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Offered for pass/not pass grade only. Alternative to final exam.

Instructors: Kirn, Lasky

Also listed as: UGBA C95B

Introduction to the Biotechnology Field and Industry: Impact, History, Therapeutics R&D, Entrepreneurship and Careers: Read Less [-]

MCELLBI C96 Studying the Biological Sciences 1 Unit

Terms offered: Fall 2019, Fall 2018, Fall 2017

Freshmen will be introduced to the "culture" of the biological sciences, along with an in-depth orientation to the academic life and the culture of the university as they relate to majoring in biology. Students will learn concepts, skills, and information that they can use in their major course, and as future science professionals. Restricted to freshmen in the biology scholars program.

Studying the Biological Sciences: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Consent of instructor

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Molecular and Cell Biology/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Offered for pass/not pass grade only. Final exam required.

Instructor: Matsui

Also listed as: INTEGBI C96/PLANTBI C96

Studying the Biological Sciences: Read Less [-]

MCELLBI 98 Directed Group Study 1 - 4 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2020, Fall 2019, Spring 2019

Lectures and small group discussions focusing on topics of interest, varying from semester to semester.

Directed Group Study: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Freshmen and sophomores only

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 1-4 hours of directed group study per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Molecular and Cell Biology/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Offered for pass/not pass grade only. Final exam not required.

Directed Group Study: Read Less [-]

MCELLBI 99 Supervised Independent Study 1 - 4 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2012, Fall 2009, Spring 2009

Supervised Independent Study: [Read More](#) [+]

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: 3.3 GPA and consent of instructor

Credit Restrictions: One unit of credit is given for every three hours of work in the lab per week to a maximum of 4 units.

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 1-4 hours of independent study per week

Summer:

8 weeks - 1.5-7.5 hours of independent study per week

10 weeks - 1.5-6 hours of independent study per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Molecular and Cell Biology/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Offered for pass/not pass grade only. Final exam not required.

Supervised Independent Study: [Read Less](#) [-]

MCELLBI 100B Biochemistry: Pathways, Mechanisms, and Regulation 4 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2020, Spring 2019, Spring 2018

This course surveys cellular metabolism with a focus on the underlying bioenergetics, mechanisms, and chemistry. Lectures will cover major principles in the biochemistry of metabolism and also highlight selected topics including signaling, transport, metabolic engineering, and human diseases related to metabolic dysfunction. The course is designed for majors in the biochemistry and molecular biology, genetics and development, or immunology emphases.

Biochemistry: Pathways, Mechanisms, and Regulation: [Read More](#) [+]

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: C100A/Chemistry C130

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture and 1 hour of discussion per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Molecular and Cell Biology/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Instructors: Savage, Zoncu, Marletta

Biochemistry: Pathways, Mechanisms, and Regulation: [Read Less](#) [-]

MCELLBI C100A Biophysical Chemistry: Physical Principles and the Molecules of Life 4 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2020, Fall 2019, Spring 2019

Thermodynamic and kinetic concepts applied to understanding the chemistry and structure of biomolecules (proteins, DNA, and RNA). Molecular distributions, reaction kinetics, enzyme kinetics. Bioenergetics, energy transduction, and motor proteins. Electrochemical potential, membranes, and ion channels.

Biophysical Chemistry: Physical Principles and the Molecules of Life: [Read More](#) [+]

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Chemistry 3A or 112A, Mathematics 1A, Biology 1A and 1AL; Chemistry 3B or 112B recommended

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture and 1 hour of discussion per week

Summer: 8 weeks - 5.5 hours of lecture and 2 hours of discussion per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Molecular and Cell Biology/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Also listed as: CHEM C130

Biophysical Chemistry: Physical Principles and the Molecules of Life: [Read Less](#) [-]

MCELLBI 102 Survey of the Principles of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology 4 Units

Terms offered: Summer 2020 8 Week Session, Spring 2020, Fall 2019

A comprehensive survey of the fundamentals of biological chemistry, including the properties of intermediary metabolites, the structure and function of biological macromolecules, the logic of metabolic pathways (both degradative and biosynthetic) and the molecular basis of genetics and gene expression.

Survey of the Principles of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology: Read More [\[+\]](#)

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Biology 1A, 1AL, and Chemistry 3B (or equivalent courses). Recommended: a course in physical chemistry

Credit Restrictions: Students will receive no credit for 102 after taking 100B or C100A/Chemistry C130 or Chemistry 135.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture and 1 hour of discussion per week

Summer:

8 weeks - 6 hours of lecture and 2 hours of discussion per week
10 weeks - 4 hours of lecture and 2 hours of discussion per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Molecular and Cell Biology/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Survey of the Principles of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology: Read Less [\[-\]](#)

MCELLBI C103 Bacterial Pathogenesis 3 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2020, Spring 2019, Spring 2018

This course for upper division and graduate students will explore the molecular and cellular basis of microbial pathogenesis. The course will focus on model microbial systems which illustrate mechanisms of pathogenesis. Most of the emphasis will be on bacterial pathogens of mammals, but there will be some discussion of viral and protozoan pathogens. There will be an emphasis on experimental approaches. The course will also include some aspects of bacterial genetics and physiology, immune response to infection, and the cell biology of host-parasite interactions.

Bacterial Pathogenesis: Read More [\[+\]](#)

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: MCELLBI 100, 102 or consent of instructor

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Molecular and Cell Biology/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Instructor: Portnoy

Also listed as: PLANTBI C103

Bacterial Pathogenesis: Read Less [\[-\]](#)

MCELLBI 104 Genetics, Genomics, and Cell Biology 4 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2020, Fall 2019, Spring 2019

This course will introduce students to key concepts in genetic analysis, eukaryotic cell biology, and state-of-the-art approaches in genomic medicine. Lectures will highlight basic knowledge of cellular processes with the basis for human diseases, particularly cancer. Prerequisite courses will have introduced students to the concepts of cells, the central dogma of molecular biology, and gene regulation. Emphasis in this course will be on eukaryotic cell processes, including cellular organization, dynamics, and signaling.

Genetics, Genomics, and Cell Biology: Read More [\[+\]](#)

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: 102

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture and 1 hour of discussion per week

Summer: 8 weeks - 6 hours of lecture and 2 hours of discussion per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Molecular and Cell Biology/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Genetics, Genomics, and Cell Biology: Read Less [\[-\]](#)

MCELLBI 110 Molecular Biology: Macromolecular Synthesis and Cellular Function 4 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2020, Fall 2019, Spring 2019

Molecular biology of prokaryotic and eukaryotic cells and their viruses. Mechanisms of DNA replication, transcription, translation. Structure of genes and chromosomes. Regulation of gene expression. Biochemical processes and principles in membrane structure and function, intracellular trafficking and subcellular compartmentation, cytoskeletal architecture, nucleocytoplasmic transport, signal transduction mechanisms, and cell cycle control.

Molecular Biology: Macromolecular Synthesis and Cellular Function:

[Read More](#) [+]

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: C100A (may not be taken concurrently); Plan 1 Emphasis 1 (BMB) majors should take 100B prior to 110

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture and 1 hour of discussion per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Molecular and Cell Biology/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Molecular Biology: Macromolecular Synthesis and Cellular Function: [Read Less](#) [-]

MCELLBI C110L General Biochemistry and Molecular Biology Laboratory 4 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2020, Fall 2019, Spring 2019

Experimental techniques of biochemistry and molecular biology, designed to accompany the lectures in Molecular and Cell Biology 100B and 110. General Biochemistry and Molecular Biology Laboratory: [Read More](#) [+]

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: 110 (may be taken concurrently)

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2-2 hours of lecture and 6-8 hours of laboratory per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Molecular and Cell Biology/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam not required.

Also listed as: CHEM C110L

General Biochemistry and Molecular Biology Laboratory: [Read Less](#) [-]

MCELLBI C112 General Microbiology 4 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2019, Fall 2018, Summer 2018 10 Week Session

This course will explore the molecular bases for physiological and biochemical diversity among members of the two major domains, Bacteria and Archaea. The ecological significance and evolutionary origins of this diversity will be discussed. Molecular, genetic, and structure-function analyses of microbial cell cycles, adaptive responses, metabolic capability, and macromolecular syntheses will be emphasized. General Microbiology: [Read More](#) [+]

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Biology 1A and 1B

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture and 1 hour of discussion per week

Summer: 10 weeks - 5 hours of lecture and 1.5 hours of discussion per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Molecular and Cell Biology/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Instructor: Ryan

Also listed as: PLANTBI C112

General Microbiology: [Read Less](#) [-]

MCELLBI C112L General Microbiology Laboratory 2 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2020, Fall 2019, Spring 2019

Experimental techniques of microbiology designed to accompany the lecture in C112 and C148. The primary emphasis in the laboratory will be on the cultivation and physiological and genetic characterization of bacteria. Laboratory exercises will include the observation, enrichment, and isolation of bacteria from selected environments. General Microbiology Laboratory: [Read More](#) [+]

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: C112 (may be taken concurrently)

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 4 hours of laboratory and 1 hour of discussion per week

Summer: 10 weeks - 6 hours of laboratory and 1.5 hours of discussion per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Molecular and Cell Biology/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam not required.

Instructors: Komeili, Traxler

Also listed as: PLANTBI C112L

General Microbiology Laboratory: [Read Less](#) [-]

MCELLBI C114 Introduction to Comparative Virology 4 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2020, Spring 2019, Spring 2018

This course will provide a comparative overview of virus life cycles and strategies viruses use to infect and replicate in hosts. We will discuss virus structure and classification and the molecular basis of viral reproduction, evolution, assembly, and virus-host interactions. Common features used during virus replication and host cellular responses to infection will be covered. Topics also included are common and emerging virus diseases, their control, and factors affecting their spread.

Introduction to Comparative Virology: [Read More](#) [+]

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Introductory chemistry (Chemistry 1A or 3A-3B or equivalent) and introductory biology (Biology 1A, 1AL, and 1B or equivalent) and general biochemistry (Molecular and Cell Biology C100A or equivalent--preferably completed but may be taken concurrently)

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture and 1.5 hours of discussion per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Molecular and Cell Biology/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Instructor: Glaunsinger

Also listed as: ESPM C138/PLANTBI C114

Introduction to Comparative Virology: [Read Less](#) [-]

MCELLBI C116 Microbial Diversity 3 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2019, Fall 2018, Fall 2017

This course for upper-division and graduate students will broadly survey myriad types of microbial organisms, both procaryote and eucaryote, using a phylogenetic framework to organize the concept of "biodiversity." Emphasis will be on the evolutionary development of the many biochemical themes, how they mold our biosphere, and the organisms that affect the global biochemistry. Molecular mechanisms that occur in different lineages will be compared and contrasted to illustrate fundamental biological strategies. Graduate students additionally should enroll in C216, Microbial Diversity Workshop.

Microbial Diversity: [Read More](#) [+]

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Upper-division standing. C112 or consent of instructor and organic chemistry (may be taken concurrently)

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture and 1 hour of discussion per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Molecular and Cell Biology/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Instructor: Coates

Formerly known as: 116

Also listed as: PLANTBI C116

Microbial Diversity: [Read Less](#) [-]

MCELLBI 118 The Cancer Karyotype: What it is and What it Does 1 Unit

Terms offered: Spring 2020, Fall 2019, Spring 2019

The prevailing mutation theory holds that 3-6 gene mutations convert normal to cancer cells. But, this theory does not explain why cancers:

1) are autonomous and immortal – unlike any conventional mutations; 2) have individual clonal karyotypes and parallel clonal transcriptomes – much like conventional species; 3) Carcinogens generate cancer only after conspicuous latent periods of years to decades – but mutations change phenotypes immediately; 4) are at once clonal and heterogeneous within clonal margins; and 5) form metastatic and drug-resistant subspecies with variant karyotypes. To explain these unexplained characteristics, this course tests a new theory that carcinogenesis is a form of speciation.

The Cancer Karyotype: What it is and What it Does: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: 102. 104 recommended

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 1 hour of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Molecular and Cell Biology/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Alternative to final exam.

Instructor: Duesberg

The Cancer Karyotype: What it is and What it Does: Read Less [-]

MCELLBI 130 Cell and Systems Biology 4 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2020, Spring 2019, Spring 2018

This course will provide a detailed discussion of a wide range of topics in cell biology emphasizing experimental approaches and key experiments that have provided important insights. The course is aimed at conveying an understanding of how cellular structure and function arise as a result of the properties of cellular macromolecules. An emphasis will be placed on the dynamic nature of cellular organization and will include a description of physical properties of cells (dimensions, concepts of free energy, diffusion, biophysical properties). Students will be introduced to quantitative aspects of cell biology and a view of cellular function that is based on integrating multiple pathways and modes of regulation (systems biology).

Cell and Systems Biology: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: 102 and 104. Instructors may waive 104 prerequisite for non-Molecular and Cell Biology majors

Credit Restrictions: Students will receive no credit for 130A after taking 130.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture and 1 hour of discussion per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Molecular and Cell Biology/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Formerly known as: Molecular and Cell Biology 130A

Cell and Systems Biology: Read Less [-]

MCELLBI 132 Biology of Human Cancer 4 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2019, Fall 2018, Fall 2017

The course is designed for students interested in learning about the molecular and cell biology of cancer and how this knowledge is being applied to the prevention, diagnosis and therapy of cancer. Topics covered include tumor pathology and epidemiology; tumor viruses and oncogenes; intracellular signaling; tumor suppressors; multi-step carcinogenesis and tumor progression; genetic instability in cancer; tumor-host interactions; invasion and metastasis; tumor immunology; cancer therapy.

Biology of Human Cancer: Read More [\[+\]](#)

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Biology 1A, 1AL, 1B and MCELLBI 102; MCELLBI 110 or 104 (may be taken concurrently)

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture and 1 hour of discussion per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Molecular and Cell Biology/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Formerly known as: 135G

Biology of Human Cancer: Read Less [\[-\]](#)

MCELLBI 133L Physiology and Cell Biology Laboratory 4 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2020, Fall 2019, Spring 2019

Experimental analyses of central problems in cell biology and physiology using modern techniques, including DNA cloning and protein biochemistry, fluorescence microscopy of the cytoskeleton and organelles, DNA transfection and cell cycle analysis of cultured mammalian cells, RNA interference and drug treatments to analyze ion channel function in cell contractility and intracellular signaling, and somatosensation.

Physiology and Cell Biology Laboratory: Read More [\[+\]](#)

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: MCELLBI 104 recommended (may be taken concurrently)

Credit Restrictions: Students will receive no credit for 133L after taking 130L.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 1 hour of lecture and 7 hours of laboratory per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Molecular and Cell Biology/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam not required.

Physiology and Cell Biology Laboratory: Read Less [\[-\]](#)

MCELLBI C134 Chromosome Biology/Cytogenetics 3 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2019, Spring 2018, Spring 2016

Survey of behavior, structure, and function of chromosomes with emphasis on behavior in model organisms. Topics include mitosis, meiosis, chromosome aberrations, genome function, dosage compensation, transposons, repetitive DNA, and modern cytological imaging.

Chromosome Biology/Cytogenetics: Read More [\[+\]](#)

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of lecture and 1 hour of discussion per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Molecular and Cell Biology/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Instructors: Dernburg, Karpen

Also listed as: PLANTBI C134

Chromosome Biology/Cytogenetics: Read Less [\[-\]](#)

MCELLBI 135A Topics in Cell and Developmental Biology: Molecular Endocrinology 3 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2019, Fall 2018, Fall 2017

Molecular mechanisms by which hormones elicit specific responses and regulate gene expression; hormone-receptor interaction; synthesis, transport and targeting of hormones, growth factors and receptors. Topics in Cell and Developmental Biology: Molecular Endocrinology: Read More [\[+\]](#)

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Molecular and Cell Biology 102, Biology 1A, 1AL, 1B, Chemistry 3A-3B or equivalent, or consent of instructor

Credit Restrictions: Students will receive no credit for Molecular and Cell Biology 135A after taking Physiology 142.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture and 1 hour of discussion per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Molecular and Cell Biology/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Instructor: Firestone

Topics in Cell and Developmental Biology: Molecular Endocrinology: Read Less [\[-\]](#)

MCELLBI 136 Physiology 4 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2019, Fall 2018, Fall 2017

Principles of mammalian (primarily human) physiology emphasizing physical, chemical, molecular and cellular bases of functional biology. The following topics will be covered: cellular and membrane ion and nonelectrolyte transport; cell and endocrine regulation; autonomic nervous system regulation; skeletal, smooth and cardiac muscle; cardiovascular physiology; respiration; renal physiology; gastrointestinal physiology. Discussion section led by Graduate Student Instructor will review material covered in lecture.

Physiology: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Biology 1A, 1AL, 1B, Physics 8A. Physics 8B recommended

Credit Restrictions: Students will receive no credit for Molecular and Cell Biology 136 after completing Integrative Biology 132.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture and 1 hour of discussion per week

Summer:

6 weeks - 8 hours of lecture and 3 hours of discussion per week

8 weeks - 6 hours of lecture and 2 hours of discussion per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Molecular and Cell Biology/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Physiology: Read Less [-]

MCELLBI 137L Physical Biology of the Cell 4 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2020, Spring 2019, Spring 2017

Biology is being revolutionized by new experimental techniques that have made it possible to measure the inner workings of molecules, cells and multicellular organisms with unprecedented precision. The objective of this course is to explore this deluge of quantitative data through the use of biological numeracy. We will develop theoretical models that make precise predictions about biological phenomena. These predictions will be tested through the hands-on analysis of experimental data and by performing numerical simulations using Matlab. A laptop is required for this course, but no previous programming experience is required.

Physical Biology of the Cell: Read More [+]

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture and 1 hour of laboratory per week

Summer: 8 weeks - 6 hours of lecture and 2 hours of laboratory per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Molecular and Cell Biology/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Alternative to final exam.

Instructor: Garcia

Physical Biology of the Cell: Read Less [-]

MCELLBI 140 General Genetics 4 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2020, Fall 2019, Spring 2019

An in depth introduction to genes, their sexual and asexual transmission in individuals and populations, and gene regulation in prokaryotes and eukaryotes. Gene manipulation by recombination, molecular cloning and genome editing is presented in contexts ranging from fundamental mechanisms of chromosome biology to applications in development, aging and disease. Human genetic variation and quantitative evaluation are illuminated. Non-Mendelian and epigenetic modes of inheritance of transposable elements, prions and chromatin states are paired with discussions of groundbreaking technology rewriting the rules of how the genome is analyzed, with attention to the ethical considerations ranging from the history of eugenics to modern controversies.

General Genetics: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Biology 1A and 1AL

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture and 1 hour of discussion per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Molecular and Cell Biology/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

General Genetics: Read Less [-]

MCELLBI 140L Genetics Laboratory 4 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2020, Spring 2019, Spring 2018

Experimental techniques in classical and molecular genetics.

Genetics Laboratory: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Molecular and Cell Biology 104 or 140. May be taken concurrently

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of lecture and 6 hours of laboratory per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Molecular and Cell Biology/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam not required.

Genetics Laboratory: Read Less [-]

MCELLBI 141 Developmental Biology 4 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2020, Spring 2019, Spring 2018

An introduction to principles and processes of embryonic and post-embryonic development, stressing mechanisms of cell and tissue interactions, morphogenesis and regulation of gene expression.

Developmental Biology: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: 102 or C100A; Biology 1A, 1AL, and 1B; 110 or 130 recommended

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture and 1 hour of discussion per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Molecular and Cell Biology/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Formerly known as: 131

Developmental Biology: Read Less [-]

MCELLBI 143 Evolution of Genomes, Cells, and Development 3 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2016, Fall 2015, Fall 2014

This course is intended for upper-division undergraduates seeking an interactive course based on modern concepts in evolution and comparative genomics. The course will emphasize the contribution of molecular evolution to a series of seminal events in life's history: origin of life; origin of cells; origin of eukaryotes; origin of multicellularity; evolution of animal development; human origins.

Evolution of Genomes, Cells, and Development: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Biology 1A-1B and Molecular and Cell Biology C100A or 102; 104 or 140 recommended

Credit Restrictions: Student will receive no credit for 143 after taking Integrative Biology 163.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture and 1 hour of discussion per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Molecular and Cell Biology/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam not required.

Instructors: King, Levine, Patel

Evolution of Genomes, Cells, and Development: Read Less [-]

MCELLBI C148 Microbial Genomics and Genetics 4 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2020, Spring 2019, Spring 2018

Course emphasizes bacterial and archaeal genetics and comparative genomics. Genetics and genomic methods used to dissect metabolic and development processes in bacteria, archaea, and selected microbial eukaryotes. Genetic mechanisms integrated with genomic information to address integration and diversity of microbial processes. Introduction to the use of computational tools for a comparative analysis of microbial genomes and determining relationships among bacteria, archaea, and microbial eukaryotes.

Microbial Genomics and Genetics: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Molecular and Cell Biology C100A/Chemistry C130 or Molecular and Cell Biology 102

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture and 1 hour of discussion per week

Summer:

8 weeks - 6 hours of lecture and 2 hours of discussion per week

10 weeks - 5 hours of lecture and 1.5 hours of discussion per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Molecular and Cell Biology/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Instructors: Brenner, Taga

Also listed as: PLANTBI C148

Microbial Genomics and Genetics: Read Less [-]

MCELLBI 149 The Human Genome 3 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2019, Spring 2018, Spring 2016

This is an upper division course for majors in MCB with an interest in an in-depth exploration of the forces that shape the human genome and the human population, as well as the ways that human genetic information can be used in medicine, ancestry and forensics. The course will combine lectures and discussion of research papers.

The Human Genome: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: MCB 140, MCB 104 or equivalent

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture and 1 hour of discussion per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Molecular and Cell Biology/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Alternative to final exam.

Instructors: Eisen, Meyer, Rokhsar

The Human Genome: Read Less [-]

MCELLBI 150 Molecular Immunology 4 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2020, Fall 2019, Spring 2019

Fundamentals of immunology with emphasis on biochemical and molecular approaches to study of the immune system and its application in medicine and biotechnology. Topics covered include description of the immune system, antibody and T-cell receptor structure and function, genes of the immunoglobulin superfamily, cells and molecular mediators that regulate the immune response, allergy, autoimmunity, immunodeficiency, tissue and organ transplants, and tumor immunology. Molecular Immunology: Read More [a+]

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: C100A/Chemistry C130, or 102

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture and 1 hour of discussion per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Molecular and Cell Biology/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Molecular Immunology: Read Less [-]

MCELLBI 150L Immunology Laboratory 4 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2020, Fall 2019, Spring 2019

Experimental techniques in mammalian molecular biology and cellular immunology. Molecular techniques covered include PCR and recombinant DNA procedures such as gene cloning, gene transfer, DNA sequencing, Southern blot, and restriction mapping. Immunological techniques covered include cell culture and monoclonal antibody production, flow cytometry, ELISA, immunoprecipitation, and western blot.

Immunology Laboratory: Read More [a+]

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Molecular and Cell Biology 150 (may be taken concurrently); consent of instructor

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 8 hours of laboratory and 1 hour of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Molecular and Cell Biology/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam not required.

Formerly known as: Microbiology 103L

Immunology Laboratory: Read Less [-]

MCELLBI 160 Cellular and Molecular Neurobiology 4 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2019, Fall 2018, Fall 2017

Comprehensive introductory survey of cellular and molecular neuroscience, including cellular neurophysiology, ion channel function, synaptic function and plasticity, sensory transduction, and brain development. Includes introduction to molecular basis of neurological disease. Analysis from the level of molecules to cells to simple circuits. Cellular and Molecular Neurobiology: Read More [a+]

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Biology 1A and 1AL. Prerequisite or co-requisite: Physics 8B

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture and 1 hour of discussion per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Molecular and Cell Biology/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Formerly known as: Molecular and Cell Biology C160/Neuroscience C160

Cellular and Molecular Neurobiology: Read Less [-]

MCELLBI 160L Neurobiology Laboratory 4 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2020, Spring 2019, Spring 2018

Experimental analyses of properties and interactions of nerve cells and systems, illustrating principal features and current methods. Techniques employed include computer simulation of neuron properties, electrophysiological recording and stimulation of nerves and cells, digitally enhanced video imaging of outgrowth, fluorescence immunocytochemistry, analysis of sensory: CNS mapping, human-evoked potential recording, sensory psychophysics. Neurobiology Laboratory: Read More [a+]

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Biology 1A, 1AL; Physics 8A, 8B; MCB 160 or equivalent (may be taken concurrently). Recommended: a course in physical chemistry

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 1 hour of lecture and 8 hours of laboratory per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Molecular and Cell Biology/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Neurobiology Laboratory: Read Less [-]

MCELLBI 161 Circuit, Systems and Behavioral Neuroscience 4 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2020, Spring 2019, Spring 2018

Comprehensive survey of circuits and systems neuroscience, including sensory and motor systems, learning and memory, neuromodulatory systems and brain state and higher functions.

Biological and computational principles of neural circuit function. Analysis from the level of small circuits to behavior.

Circuit, Systems and Behavioral Neuroscience: Read More [\[+\]](#)

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Molecular and Cell Biology 160

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture and 1 hour of discussion per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Molecular and Cell Biology/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Circuit, Systems and Behavioral Neuroscience: Read Less [\[-\]](#)

MCELLBI 163L Mammalian Neuroanatomy Lab 4 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2019, Fall 2018, Fall 2017

Development, structure (gross and microscopic), and functional relationships of the mammalian nervous system.

Mammalian Neuroanatomy Lab: Read More [\[+\]](#)

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Biology 1A/1AL, Molecular and Cell Biology 160 but can be taken concurrently. Molecular and Cell Biology 161 is recommended

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 1 hour of lecture and 6 hours of laboratory per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Molecular and Cell Biology/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Instructors: Roelink, Lammel, Ball

Mammalian Neuroanatomy Lab: Read Less [\[-\]](#)

MCELLBI 165 Neurobiology of Disease 3 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2020, Spring 2019, Spring 2018

The molecular, cellular, and neural circuit basis of neurological disease.

Includes neurochemistry and reward systems, neural development and its disorders, addiction, neurodegenerative and neuropsychiatric disorders. Students will read and discuss primary papers from the research literature.

Neurobiology of Disease: Read More [\[+\]](#)

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Molecular and Cell Biology 160

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 2 hours of lecture and 1 hour of discussion per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Molecular and Cell Biology/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Instructor: Caporale

Neurobiology of Disease: Read Less [\[-\]](#)

MCELLBI 166 Biophysical Neurobiology 3 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2019, Fall 2018, Fall 2017

Electrochemistry and ion transport phenomena, equivalent circuits, excitability, action potentials, voltage clamp and the Hodgkin-Huxley model. Biophysical properties of ion channels. Statistical and electrophysiological models of synaptic transmission, Quantitative models for dendritic structure and neuronal morphogenesis. Sensory transduction, cellular networks as computational devices, information processing and transfer.

Biophysical Neurobiology: [Read More](#) [+]

Objectives Outcomes

Course Objectives: 1)

Derive equations for Nernst and GHK membrane potential from fundamental physics concepts.

2)

Describe the experiments and theory underlying the Hodgkin-Huxley model.

3)

Understand biophysical properties of gating particles called ion channels.

4)

Apply and solve equivalent circuit models to describe resting and excitable cells, synaptic transmission and sensory transduction.

5)

Use Poisson, Gaussian and binomial distributions to analyze the gating of ion channels, synaptic transmission, and absolute sensitivity of vision.

6)

Model dendritic structure based on quantitative descriptors of shape and energy minimization theory.

7)

Explain experiments and models of sensory transduction, neuronal integration and lateral inhibition.

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Biology 1A, 1AL, Physics 8A-8B, Chemistry 1A, 3A/3AL-3B, or consent of instructor

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of lecture and 1 hour of discussion per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Molecular and Cell Biology/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam required.

Instructors: Elul, Isacoff, Miller

Biophysical Neurobiology: [Read Less](#) [-]

MCELLBI 170L Molecular and Cell Biology Laboratory 4 Units

Terms offered: Summer 2020 First 6 Week Session, Summer 2019 First 6 Week Session

This laboratory class is designed for molecular biology, cell biology and genetics majors to give them an overview of techniques and applications done in these three fields. This is an intense lab class, and you have to be ready to work at a fast pace throughout the 6 weeks span of the course.

Molecular and Cell Biology Laboratory: [Read More](#) [+]

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Molecular and Cell Biology 102, 104, 110 or 140

Credit Restrictions: Students will receive no credit for Molecular and Cell Biology 170L after taking Molecular and Cell Biology 133L, 140L or C110L/Chemistry C110L

Hours & Format

Summer: 6 weeks - 5 hours of lecture and 14 hours of laboratory per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Molecular and Cell Biology/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam not required.

Instructor: Le Blanc

Molecular and Cell Biology Laboratory: [Read Less](#) [-]

MCELLBI 180 Undergraduate Teaching of Biology 1A Laboratory 1 or 2 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2012, Spring 2007, Fall 2006

Course consists of a weekly three-hour training session that focuses on laboratory techniques, instructional aids, and problem solving, plus an additional three hour weekly laboratory where the UGSI is required to assist a GSI in the instruction of laboratory (answering questions, providing demonstrations, etc.).

Undergraduate Teaching of Biology 1A Laboratory: [Read More](#) [+]

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Biology 1A, 1AL with a minimum grade of B.

Appointment as a UGSI in biology by consent of instructor. Restricted to undergraduate students

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit up to a total of 4 units.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3-6 hours of session per week

Summer: 8 weeks - 6-12 hours of session per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Molecular and Cell Biology/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Offered for pass/not pass grade only. Final exam not required.

Undergraduate Teaching of Biology 1A Laboratory: [Read Less](#) [-]

MCELLBI 180C Undergraduate Teaching of Molecular and Cell Biology 32 Laboratory 1 - 2 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2012, Fall 2011, Fall 2010

Course consists of a weekly three-hour training session that focuses on laboratory techniques, instructional aids, and problem solving, plus an additional three-hour weekly laboratory where the UGSI is required to assist a GSI in the instruction of laboratory (answering questions, providing demonstrations, etc.). Students will be graded on lecture and laboratory attendance and preparation of one quiz.

Undergraduate Teaching of Molecular and Cell Biology 32 Laboratory:

Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: 32, 136, or Integrative Biology 132 and Molecular and Cell Biology 32L or Integrative Biology 132L laboratory courses in physiology with minimum grades of B. Appointment as a UGSI in physiology by consent of instructor

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit up to a total of 4 units.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3-6 hours of session per week

Summer:

6 weeks - 7.5-15 hours of session per week

8 weeks - 5.5-11 hours of session per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Molecular and Cell Biology/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Offered for pass/not pass grade only. Final exam required.

Undergraduate Teaching of Molecular and Cell Biology 32 Laboratory:
Read Less [-]

MCELLBI N184 Intro to CRISPR: From Basic Biology to Genome Editing Technology 1 Unit

Terms offered: Summer 2020 3 Week Session, Summer 2019 3 Week Session, Summer 2018 3 Week Session

This 3 week course will address topics in genome editing and CRISPR-Cas9 research, including basic and enhanced CRISPR methods, cellular repair mechanisms, regulation of gene expression, bioinformatics, applications to various organisms, and bioethics. Students will learn from a collection of local experts about ongoing campus research, and gain the background knowledge to understand current publications and applications of genome editing.

Intro to CRISPR: From Basic Biology to Genome Editing Technology:

Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: BIOLOGY 1A or equivalent

Hours & Format

Summer: 3 weeks - 4 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Molecular and Cell Biology/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Offered for pass/not pass grade only. Final exam required.

Instructors: Hockemeyer, Wilson

Intro to CRISPR: From Basic Biology to Genome Editing Technology:

Read Less [-]

MCELLBI N184L Intro to CRISPR Lab: From Basic Biology to Genome Editing Technology 1 Unit

Terms offered: Summer 2020 3 Week Session, Summer 2019 3 Week Session

This 3 week lab course will focus on applications of CRISPR technology as a platform for genome editing and functional genomics. The program will consist of a hands-on laboratory experience demonstrating how CRISPR systems work in situ, as well as use genome editing both in vitro and in vivo. Students will utilize fundamental molecular biology techniques and learn additional protocols specific to genome editing. Two bioinformatics based lessons will cover the essential programs and analyses used in the genome editing field. This course requires concurrent enrollment in a lecture component (MCELLBI N184), where lecturers will address topics in genome editing and CRISPR-Cas9 research.

Intro to CRISPR Lab: From Basic Biology to Genome Editing Technology: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Biology 1A/1AL or equivalent course. MCELLBI N184 (may be taken concurrently)

Hours & Format

Summer: 3 weeks - 14 hours of laboratory per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Molecular and Cell Biology/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Offered for pass/not pass grade only. Final exam not required.

Instructors: Hockemeyer, Wilson

Intro to CRISPR Lab: From Basic Biology to Genome Editing Technology: Read Less [-]

MCELLBI 191 Senior Research Thesis 3 Units

Terms offered: Not yet offered

This course is intended for advanced undergraduates wishing to pursue independent research projects under the mentorship of an Molecular and Cell Biology faculty member. To apply for MCELLBI 191, the research project must be rigorous and provide significant training in biology.

Senior Research Thesis: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Consent of instructor and departmental adviser

Credit Restrictions: Students will receive no credit for MCELLBI 191 after completing MCELLBI H196B, or MCELLBI H196A.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 9 hours of independent study per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Molecular and Cell Biology/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Alternative to final exam.

Senior Research Thesis: Read Less [-]

MCELLBI 194 Undergraduate Student Instructor for Molecular and Cell Biology Courses 1 - 2 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2018, Fall 2017

UGSIs will work under supervision of instructor and/or GSI. The UGSI will attend three hours of lecture per week where they will assist a GSI in instruction (answering questions, providing demonstrations, facilitating activities, etc.). In addition, UGSIs will meet with students from their section for zero to three hours of tutoring per week depending on the number of units. UGSIs do not evaluate students' work or assign grades. UGSIs will be graded on attendance and preparation of one lesson plan and one quiz. Required to attend any mandatory preparatory and review meetings.

Undergraduate Student Instructor for Molecular and Cell Biology Courses: Read More [+]

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Must have completed course applying to UGSI with a grade of B or better; or consent of instructor

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit up to a total of 4 units.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3-3 hours of lecture per week

Summer: 8 weeks - 6-6 hours of lecture per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Molecular and Cell Biology/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Offered for pass/not pass grade only. Alternative to final exam.

Undergraduate Student Instructor for Molecular and Cell Biology Courses: Read Less [-]

MCELLBI H196A Honors Research 1 - 4 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2015, Fall 2014, Spring 2014

Individual research and thesis preparation under the supervision of a faculty member. Acceptance to the Molecular and Cell Biology Honors Program is required. Contact the MCB Undergraduate Affairs Office, 3060 Valley Life Sciences Building, for application and details. Honor students must complete at least two semesters of research, taking a minimum of 4 units and a maximum of 8 units of H196A-196B. If desired, one semester of 199 can be used to replace H196A.

Honors Research: Read More [\[+\]](#)

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Senior honors status and consent of instructor

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit up to a total of 4 units.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 1-4 hours of independent study per week

Summer: 8 weeks - 1.5-7.5 hours of independent study per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Molecular and Cell Biology/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Offered for pass/not pass grade only. Final exam not required.

Honors Research: Read Less [\[-\]](#)

MCELLBI H196B Honors Research 1 - 4 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2016, Spring 2015, Spring 2014

Individual research and completion of thesis under the supervision of a faculty member. This course satisfies the thesis requirement for the Molecular and Cell Biology Department Honors Program. Contact the MCB Undergraduate Affairs Office, 3060 Valley Life Sciences Building, for program details and an application. Honor students must complete at least two semesters of research, taking a minimum of 4 units and a maximum of 8 units of H196A-196B. One semester of H196B is required.

Honors Research: Read More [\[+\]](#)

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Senior honors status and consent of instructor

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit up to a total of 4 units.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 1-4 hours of independent study per week

Summer: 8 weeks - 1.5-7.5 hours of independent study per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Molecular and Cell Biology/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Letter grade. Final exam not required.

Honors Research: Read Less [\[-\]](#)

MCELLBI 197 Supervised Internship 1 Unit

Terms offered: Fall 2016

Supervised experience relevant to specific topics of biology in off-campus organizations. Written report and evaluation from internship supervisor required.

Supervised Internship: Read More [\[+\]](#)

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Consent of MCB Faculty, restricted to MCB majors and prospective majors only. Certification from supervisor that credit is required

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit with instructor consent.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 3 hours of internship per week

Summer: 8 weeks - 6 hours of internship per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Molecular and Cell Biology/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Offered for pass/not pass grade only. Final exam not required.

Supervised Internship: Read Less [\[-\]](#)

MCELLBI 198 Directed Group Study 1 - 4 Units

Terms offered: Spring 2020, Fall 2019, Spring 2019

Lectures and small group discussions focusing on topics of interest, varying from semester to semester.

Directed Group Study: Read More [\[+\]](#)

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Upper division standing

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 1-4 hours of directed group study per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Molecular and Cell Biology/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Offered for pass/not pass grade only. Final exam not required.

Directed Group Study: Read Less [\[-\]](#)

MCELLBI 199 Supervised Independent Study and Research 1 - 4 Units

Terms offered: Fall 2015, Spring 2015, Fall 2014

Enrollment restrictions apply; see the Introduction to Courses and Curricula section of this catalog.

Supervised Independent Study and Research: Read More [\[+\]](#)

Rules & Requirements

Prerequisites: Consent of instructor

Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.

Hours & Format

Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 1-4 hours of independent study per week

Summer:

6 weeks - 1-4 hours of independent study per week

8 weeks - 1-4 hours of independent study per week

10 weeks - 1-4 hours of independent study per week

Additional Details

Subject/Course Level: Molecular and Cell Biology/Undergraduate

Grading/Final exam status: Offered for pass/not pass grade only. Final exam not required.

Supervised Independent Study and Research: Read Less [\[-\]](#)