



Department of Biochemistry
School of Molecular & Cellular Biology
BIOC 190, Fall 2025
Biochemistry Orientation, 1 Credit Hour

Instructional Team

Dr. Alison Neff, Primary Instructor
Coordinator for Biochemistry Undergraduate Program, Academic Advisor
Department of Biochemistry, Room 417 Roger Adams Laboratory
hantak@illinois.edu, 217-244-6601

Eva Sadowski, Teaching Assistant, evas3@illinois.edu

Class Meeting Time and Location

Mondays, 4:00PM-4:50PM, August 25-November 17
Chemistry Annex Room 1024

Course Overview and Description

This course is designed to acquaint incoming Biochemistry students with how to navigate through the Biochemistry Specialized Curriculum. Additionally, lectures are designed to introduce students to the various specializations available in the field, career exploration procedures, and a wide range of opportunities of special interest to Biochemistry students. Lectures and guest lectures will be designed to encourage questions and comments from the students throughout the semester.

Course Requirements

This course is restricted to first year students in the Biochemistry Specialized Curriculum.

Student Learning Outcomes

At the end of the course, through participation in lectures and class discussions, students will be able to:

- Understand how to navigate through the Biochemistry Specialized Curriculum
- Utilize Biochemistry student and campus resources
- Identify different biochemistry-related careers
- Navigate student registration and access academic advising

Course Text/Materials Information

There is no textbook required for this course. We recommend bringing a mobile device, such as a phone, tablet, or laptop to participate in in-class activities.

Attendance

It is important that you attend class each week. If you must miss a class, contact Alison Neff in advance at hantak@illinois.edu for an excused absence. Absence from class without prior notice will be considered an unexcused absence.

Grading Information and Breakdown

This course is graded Satisfactory (S)/Unsatisfactory (U). S is earned by students with 2, 1, or zero excused absences. A grade of U is earned by students who have 3 or more excused absences. A grade of U is also earned by students who have 1 or more unexcused absences.

Course Schedule

August 25: Welcome, Introductions, and Program Overview

Dr. Satish Nair, Department Head and *Dr. Alison Neff*, Coordinator for Biochemistry Undergraduate Program

September 1: Labor Day - NO CLASS

September 8: Biochemistry Undergraduate Program and Resources

Dr. Alison Neff, Coordinator for Biochemistry Undergraduate Program, Academic Advisor

September 15: What the Library Can Do for You

Kelli Trej, Bioscience Librarian and Associate Professor, University Library

September 22: Pre-Health Advising at UIUC

MyTe'Anna Wynn-Johnson, Assistant Director, Health Professions Advising

September 29: What Happens Next

Dr. Ben Warlick, BioProcess Hardware Specialist, Cytiva

October 6: Study Abroad Opportunities in Biochemistry

Lilia Garcia and Bethany Burger, Academic Advisors, Molecular and Cellular Biology Advising

October 13: Participating in Undergraduate Research

Dr. Alison Neff, Coordinator for Biochemistry Undergraduate Program

October 20: Preparation for Spring Registration

Dr. Alison Neff, Coordinator for Biochemistry Undergraduate Program

October 27: Graduate School, Medical School, and M.D./Ph.D. Programs: Academic Careers and Professions in the Medical Field

Dr. James Schlauch, Professor and Head, Department of Microbiology; Director, M.D./Ph.D. Program, Carle Illinois College of Medicine

November 3: Driving Innovation in Life Sciences: Exploring Careers at the Intersection of Science, AI, and Business (via Zoom)

Dr. Sandeep Pawar, Vice President and General Manager-Life Sciences, Manifold

November 10: Introduction to Carle Illinois College of Medicine: Redefining Medical Education to Revolutionize Health Care

Kristin Allen, Coordinator of Student Recruiting, Carle Illinois College of Medicine

November 17: Flip the Script: An Instructor's Side of Biochemistry Education

Dustin Buntrock, Instructor, School of MCB

Religious Observances and Practices:

Students are required to submit the Request for Accommodation for Religious Observances Form (can be found at www.odos.illinois.edu/.../Religious_Observance_Accommodation_Request_Form.docx) to their instructors and the Office of the Dean of Students requesting accommodation by the end of the second week of the course. Requests that are not submitted within this time frame may not be granted. Information about accommodations can be found in the Student Code: <http://studentcode.illinois.edu/>.

Disability Resources and Educational Services (DRES) Accommodations:

We are committed to providing a learning environment where our students can succeed. If you require special accommodations, please contact us and the Disability Resources and Educational Services (DRES) as soon as possible. To contact DRES, you may visit 1207 S. Oak Street, Champaign, call 217.333.4603, or email disability@illinois.edu. We will try to meet all accommodations once the process has started. Please note that accommodations are not retroactive to the beginning of the semester, but begin the day you contact your professor, instructor or coordinator with a current letter of accommodation from DRES. If a student believes that they need DRES accommodations, they should contact DRES at disability@illinois.edu.

Academic Integrity:

The Code of Policies and Regulations Applying to All Students will be applied in all instances of academic misconduct committed by students. This applies to all exams, presentations, assignments and materials distributed or used in this course. You can review these policies at the following website: <http://admin.illinois.edu/policy/code/index.html> and specifically here: <http://studentcode.illinois.edu/article1/part4/1-401/>

University Information of Student Safety - Active Threats:

- **General Emergency Response Recommendations** ([Emergency Response Guide](#)):
- Security Threat. The Department of Homeland Security and the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Office of Campus Emergency Planning recommend the following three responses to any emergency on campus: **RUN > HIDE > FIGHT**
- **Only follow these actions if safe to do so.** When in doubt, follow your instincts - you are your best advocate!
- **RUN** – Action taken to leave an area for personal safety.
 - Take the time to learn the different ways to leave your building **before** there is an emergency.

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- Evacuations are mandatory for fire alarms and when directed by authorities! No exceptions!
 - Evacuate immediately. Pull manual fire alarm to prompt a response for others to evacuate.
 - Take critical personal items only (keys, purse, and outerwear) and close doors behind you.
 - Assist those who need help, but carefully consider whether you may put yourself at risk.
 - Look for **Exit** signs indicating potential egress/escape routes.
 - If you are not able to evacuate, go to an Area of Rescue Assistance, as indicated on the front page of this plan.
 - Evacuate to Evacuation Assembly Area, as indicated on front page of this plan.
 - Remain at Evacuation Assembly Area until additional instructions are given.
 - Alert authorities to those who may need assistance.
 - Do not re-enter building until informed by emergency response personnel that it is safe to return.
 - Active Threat: IF it is safe to do so, run out of the building. Get as far away as possible. Do NOT go to the Evacuation Assembly Area.
- **HIDE** – Action taken to seek immediate shelter indoors when emergency conditions do not warrant or allow evacuation.
 - Severe Weather:
 - If you are outside, proceed to the nearest protective building.
 - If sheltering-in-place due to severe weather, proceed to the identified Storm Refuge Area or to the lowest, most interior area of the building away from windows or hazardous equipment or materials.
 - Active Threat:
 - Lock or barricade your area.
 - Get to a place where the threat cannot see you.
 - Place cell phones on silent.
 - Do not make any noise.
 - Do not come out until you receive an Illini-Alert advising you it is safe.
 - **FIGHT** – Action taken as a last resort to increase your odds of survival.
 - Active Threat: If you cannot run away safely or hide, be prepared to fight with anything available to increase your odds for survival.

Student Resources/Where to go for Help:

We Care at Illinois

- For sexual misconduct support, response and prevention visit: wecare.illinois.edu

Title IX makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender are Civil Rights offenses subject to the same kinds of accountability and the same kinds of support applied to offenses against other protected categories such as race, national origin, etc. If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you can find the appropriate resources here: http://oior.illinois.edu/sites/prod/files/SexualMisconduct_ResourceGuide.pdf

Safety and Emergency

University Police Department, Emergency, 9-911; Non-emergency, 217-333-8911

University Fire Department Emergency, 9-911

Crisis Line, 217-359-4141

Emergency Dean, 300 Turner Student Services Bldg., 610 E. John St., 217-333-0050
Counseling Center, 110 Student Services Bldg., 610 E. John St., 217-333-3704
McKinley Health Center, General Information, 217-333-2701
McKinley Mental Health Center, 1109 S. Lincoln, 217-333-2705
Dean of Students, 300 Turner Students Services Bldg, 610 E. John St., 217-333-0050
Local Sexual Assault Center, RACES, 217-384-4444
Women's Resources Center, 703 South Wright Street, 2nd Floor, 217-333-3137
Rape Crisis 24-hour Hotline, 217-384-4444
Suicide and Psychological Emergency, Suicide Prevention Team, 217-333-3704
SafeRides (free nighttime campus ride program), 217-265-RIDE (265-7433)
SafeWalks (free walking escort service by Student Patrol), 217-333-1216

Student Services and Advocacy

Office of the Dean of Students, 300 Student Services Bldg., 610 E. John St., 217-333-0050

Classroom Support, Teaching Skills, and Instructional Strategies

Center for Innovation in Teaching and Learning, 249 Armory Building, 217-333-1462

Counseling Services

Counseling Center, 110 Student Services Bldg., 610 E. John St., 217-333-3704
McKinley Mental Health Center, 1109 S. Lincoln Ave., 217-333-2701
Psychological Services Center, 3rd Floor, 505 E. Green St., 217-333-0041

Disability Services

Disability Resources and Educational Services (DRES), 1207 S. Oak St., 217-333-1970

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Resource Center

LGBTB Resource Center, 323 Illini Union, 1401 W. Green St., 217-244-8863

Veterans Services

Veteran Student Support Services, Office of the Dean of Students, 610 E. John St., 217-333-0050
Center for Wounded Veterans in Higher Education, 908 W. Nevada St., 217-300-3515

General Study Skills Assistance

Office of Minority Student Affairs, 130 Student Services Bldg., 610 E. John St, 217-333-0054
Office of Minority Student Affairs Tutoring Services, 701 S. Gregory Dr., Suite 1, 217-333-7547
Writer's Workshop, 251 Undergraduate Library, 1402 W. Gregory Dr., 217-333-8796
**Additional academic assistance may be available through individual departments

Health Resources

Health Education, McKinley Health Center, 1109 S. Lincoln Ave., 217-333-2701
Alcohol and Other Drug Office, 2nd Floor Counseling Center, 610 E. John St., 217-333-7557
Sexual Health Educator, McKinley Health Center, 1109 S. Lincoln Ave., 217-333-2714
Dial-A-Nurse, McKinley Health Center (24-hour), 1109 S. Lincoln Ave., 217-333-2700
Health Resource Center, McKinley Health Center, 1109 S. Lincoln Ave., 217-333-6000
Health Resource Center, Room 40 Illini Union, 1401 W. Green St., 217-244-5994
McKinley Health Center, General Information, 1109 S. Lincoln Ave., 217-333-2701

Sexual Harassment/Assault and Acts of Intolerance/Hate Crimes

Office of the Dean of Students, 300 Students Services Bldg., 610 E. John St., 217-333-0050

The Office of Diversity, Equity and Access (ODEA):

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- For non-academic support visit: diversity.illinois.edu
 - Discrimination and Harassment Prevention
 - Title IX
 - Accessibility and Accommodations
 - Inclusive Illinois