



School of Molecular & Cellular Biology

MCB 450, Spring 2024

Introductory Biochemistry, 3 Credit Hours

Instructors/Instructional Team

Dr. Lin-Feng Chen

Office Hours: Wednesday, 1-2PM, online (Zoom link on course Moodle page)

Email: mcb450help@life.illinois.edu

Dr. Rudy Fratti

Office Hours: Wednesday, 1-2PM, online (Zoom link on course Moodle page)

Email: mcb450help@life.illinois.edu

Elizabeth Good, Course Coordinator, MCB 450

127 Burrill Hall

Office hours: By appointment

Office: 217-244-0546

Email: blinstru@illinois.edu

Class Meeting Schedule

- Lecture: Tuesday and Thursday, 11AM-12:20PM in 0027/1025 Campus Instructional Facility (CIF)

Course Overview and Description

Chemistry and metabolism of carbohydrates, lipids, proteins, nucleic acids, vitamins, and coenzymes and their relation to the regulation and processes of organisms, cells, and subcellular components.

Course Prerequisites

- Credit is not given for both [MCB 450](#) and [MCB 354](#).
- Prerequisite: [CHEM 232](#) or [CHEM 236](#), or equivalent, or consent of instructor.
- Not intended for students in the MCB or Biochemistry curricula.

Text/Materials Information (required)

- "Biochemistry A Short Course, Fourth Edition," Authors: John L. Tymoczko, Jeremy M. Berg, Lubert Stryer, W.H. Freeman and Company (2019)
- The course textbook is available as an [E-book, Loose-leaf or Paperback version](#). You may choose whichever version you prefer.
- The book is on reserve in the MCB Learning Center, 101 Burrill Hall.
- You will also need a non-graphing scientific calculator for the exams and problem sets. **NO graphing or programmable calculators will be allowed at the exams.**

Course Management System, Course Tools

- MCB 450 SP24 will use Moodle: <https://learn.illinois.edu>
- PPT and PDF slides will be posted on the course Moodle page under the "Lecture Material" link.
- Assignments will be completed in [LON-CAPA](#). You can find a link to your assignments under the "Assignments Information" link on Moodle.
- You will log into both Moodle and LON CAPA using your NetId and Active Directory Password.

Grading Information and Breakdown

- Student grades in MCB 450 will be based on a total of 1000 points.
- The grade you earn in the course will be based on the points that you earn. Effort is reflected in points earned.
- We will adhere to the letter grade scale when assigning final grades in order to avoid capriciousness and to adhere to fairness and equity for all students.
- Course assignments will be administered in [LON-CAPA](#).
- Categories listed below are approximate but should closely resemble the final point distribution. All point totals are estimates and may be altered slightly throughout the course of the semester.

Point Distribution	
3 Exams (@150 points each)	450
Final Exam (non-cumulative)	150
Assignments	400 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Homework</i>- 300 points total (11 x 30pts, drop lowest score, earn a maximum of 300 points toward final grade) • <i>Pre-lecture Questions</i>- 100 points total (21 x 6pts, earn a maximum of 100 points toward final grade)
Total	1000 points

This course will use the University-assigned grade point values for each letter grade (see table below). MCB 450 will use the plus/minus system, and students who earn the points shown below (out of 1000 possible points max.), will be guaranteed the indicated letter grade. At semester's end, after the final exam, the faculty will analyze the course grade distribution, and may decrease (to accommodate poor class performance as a whole), but will not increase, the points needed for each letter grade.

Letter Grade	Point Ranges	Grade Point Value
A+	1000-920	4.000
A	919-883	4.000
A-	882-850	3.667
B+	849-817	3.333
B	816-783	3.000
B-	782-750	2.667
C+	749-717	2.333
C	716-683	2.000
C-	682-650	1.667
D+	649-617	1.333
D	616-583	1.000
D-	582-550	0.667
F	549-0	0.000

Course Policies

MCB Curriculum Policies

All students enrolled in an MCB course are assumed to have read and understood the MCB Curriculum Policies (listed below) and will be expected to act accordingly.

When MCB 450 Classes Begin

Lecture will begin at 11AM on Tuesday, January 16, 2024, in 0027/1025 Campus Instructional Facility (CIF).

Lecture slides will be posted in PPT on the MCB 450 course Moodle page on the “Lecture Material” page.

Section Change, Add/Drop Information

Students may use UI Enterprise to add or drop MCB 450 before 5:00 PM, Monday, January 29, 2024.

Monday, January 29, 2024, at 5:00 PM is the deadline for adding the MCB 450 course.

Friday, March 8, 2024, is the last day to drop the course or to elect the Credit/No Credit option.

To elect the Credit/No Credit option, students must apply in their College Office.

To drop the course after the drop deadline, students must petition a dean in their college office and email petitions to Elizabeth Good for completion of attendance and grade information.

Where To Direct Questions

MCB 450 has a general email mcb450help@life.illinois.edu which is used for course content based questions. This email is sent to all of the MCB 450 staff. An instructor or TA will be answering your content questions on a daily basis. Any course policy questions (absences, conflicts, technology issues) need to be sent directly to Elizabeth Good's email, blinstru@illinois.edu.