

## **Online Course Information**

### **Instructor:**

Prof. Mark E. Hauber, Dept. of Animal Biology, School of Integrative Biology, UIUC

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Office Hours: 12-12:50 PM Fridays or by appointment

**Biology of Sex** is the biological study of sexual reproduction. Here we survey the molecular and physiological process, function, ecology, behavior, and evolution of sexual (and asexual) reproduction of humans and other taxa and lineages.

3 CR (online course). Prerequisite: IB 150 or consent of instructor.

*An undergrad IB honors credit project is available upon request.*

**Your learning outcomes** include (1) the ability to describe the proximate and ultimate patterns and causes of biological diversity, form, and function in sexual reproduction, (2) knowledge to discriminate and integrate biology and pathology of sexual processes in humans, and (3) skills to assess and synthesize readings from the primary scientific literature in sex-research and -biology.

**Schedule:** Online, 2<sup>nd</sup> half of Spring 2020 semester

**Text:** None, reading will be assigned for each week of the course and posted on Moodle.

**Course Web Site:** Materials and quizzes & exams for the course will be posted on the course Moodle site: <https://learn.illinois.edu>

## **Exams and Grading**

### **Course Grading Philosophy**

- 1) I use the standard 90, 80, 70, 60% scores as starting cutoff points for A, B, C, and D grades, respectively, with options for plus grades (A+, B+, but not A-, B-).
- 2) Reading assignments for the course will be provided on the course schedule. **The expectation is that you will have read this material before each week of the course.** Material from the text will be covered quickly and used as a starting point to explore topics in more detail in the online lectures.
- 3) There will be three non-cumulative exams and one writing assignment (the latter will involve reading and summarizing an original peer-reviewed research article). As per University of Illinois requirement, we are obliged to check your identity as part of online courses: this will be done by handing in the written assignment in person during the course.
- 4) The quizzes (for bonus points) and exams will be held online. The third (final) exam will be held during the last week of the course (not finals).

Exams can be made up only with proper excuse and documentation. If you are ill, you need a doctor's or McKinley letter – a note from the Emergency Dean does not substitute for a doctor's excuse. You must contact Dr. Hauber before the exam or as soon as possible after the exam to ensure that your absence is excused and that a makeup exam or other accommodation can be arranged.

**Point Allocation**

Exams - 75% (each 25%), 1 Writing Exercise - 25%

**Contesting Grades**

If you feel that your assignment or exam has been graded inappropriately, you are welcome to contest grades via a written statement within one week of receiving the graded assignment. To contest a grade, you must submit a written statement (preferably via email) of what you believe was graded incorrectly and why the grade should be altered. No oral contesting of grades will be considered, nor will we consider any contest of grades submitted after one week of posting.

**Disabilities Statement**

If you require special accommodations, please tell Dr. Hauber as soon as possible. All accommodations will follow the procedures as stated in Article 1-110 of the Student Code ([http://studentcode.illinois.edu/article1\\_part1\\_1-110.html](http://studentcode.illinois.edu/article1_part1_1-110.html)). To obtain disability-related academic adjustments and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the course instructor and the Disability Resources and Educational Services (DRES) as soon as possible. To contact DRES you may visit 1207 S. Oak St., Champaign, call 333-4603 (V/TTY), or e-mail a message to [disability@illinois.edu](mailto:disability@illinois.edu).

**Academic Integrity** is essential to maintaining a learning environment that promotes excellence. We expect that all students will complete all academic and scholarly assignments with fairness and honesty. We adhere to the academic misconduct guidelines outlined by the Student Code of Conduct and will report any suspected academic misconduct. Please see [http://studentcode.illinois.edu/article1\\_part4\\_1-402.html](http://studentcode.illinois.edu/article1_part4_1-402.html) for additional details. If you have any questions about the above policy or what constitutes academic misconduct in this course, please contact Dr. Hauber.

**Course schedule:** Online. Final (third) exam—will be conducted during the last week of the course instruction period.

Week	Week of 2020	Module	Topic	Readings (no text book: all available on website)	Quizzes and Exams
1	16-Mar	<b>SPRING BREAK</b>	n/a	n/a	<b>SPRING BREAK</b>
2	23-Mar	Evolution	Definition of sexual reproduction, selection experiments, diversity	TBD	
3	30-Mar	Genetics	Molecular and cellular mechanisms, sex determination mechanisms	TBD	
4	6-Apr	Anatomy and Morphology	Gonadal diversity, development	TBD	Exam 1
5	13-Apr	Physiology	Endocrine mechanisms	TBD	Writing Assignment Due
6	20-Apr	Behavior	Sexual selection, courtship and mate choice	TBD	Exam 2
7	27-Apr	Pathology and stds	Pharmacology and treatments	TBD	
8	4-May	Sex, Gender, and Society	Definitions, usage, culture, and policies	TBD	Final Exam