

GENETICS, LAW AND SOCIAL POLICY (01:119:154)

Syllabus - SPRING 2022

INSTRUCTOR

Doreen Glodowski, Ph.D.

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email: Glodowski@biology.rutgers.edu

office hours: by appointment

LECTURE

Mon & Wed at 2pm – 3:20pm in LSH-B269

A schedule with weekly lecture topics, reading assignments and lecture dates is posted on the course Canvas site in the “Course Essentials” module.

Please note that, because we are starting this semester with remote instruction, Lectures 1 – 4 will be recorded and posted on the course Canvas site. Our first in-person lecture will be held on Wed Feb 2.

COURSE WEBSITE

<https://canvas.rutgers.edu/>

REQUIRED MATERIALS

Access to Cengage MindTap learning site

This site contains weekly assigned activities, along with the e-version of the required text, Human Heredity: Principles and Issues, 11th Edition by Michael Cummings ISBN-10: 0357694562. It is not necessary to purchase a hard copy of the required text, as it is included on the MindTap learning site.

This course is part of the First Day program operated by the Rutgers Bookstore. As such, you may register for access to MindTap through a link on the course Canvas site. To do this, go to the “Modules” section and view the first module called “Course Essentials”. Here you will see a link labeled “Click here to register with MindTap”.

Once you’ve done this, you will be able to view the textbook, optional study activities, and any assignments that are open. Your term bill for this semester will include the fee for access to MindTap. If you decide to drop this course, you will not be charged for access to MindTap. If you have any technical problems, click the link called “Cengage Technical Support” in the “Course Essentials” module.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

High-speed internet access

Device with camera and microphone

Please visit the [Rutgers Student Tech Guide](#) page for resources available to all students. If you do not have the appropriate technology for financial reasons, please email Dean of Students deanofstudents@echo.rutgers.edu for

assistance. If you are facing other financial hardships, please visit the Office of Financial Aid at <https://financialaid.rutgers.edu/>.

For tech help with Canvas, please visit <https://it.rutgers.edu/help-support>.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Genetics, Law and Social Policy is a 3-credit course designed for non-science majors to learn the basic concepts in genetics needed to understand a variety of topics that are often covered in the media and will likely play a role in everyone's life at some point, either directly or indirectly. The first few weeks of the course are focused on establishing the background in genetics that is needed to delve into subjects including assisted reproductive technology, genetic testing, cloning, genetically modified organisms, human genome sequencing and CRISPR technology.

Readings in the textbook provide background information. Additional readings will be posted on the course Canvas site to provide information on recent developments dealing with course topics.

COURSE GOALS

1. To understand basic principles of genetics, molecular and cellular biology as they relate to topics discussed in class.
2. To consider and discuss legal and ethical issues arising from the influences biological research and society have on each other.
3. To understand and effectively communicate the scientific, legal and ethical viewpoints surrounding topics discussed in class.

Core Curriculum Learning Goals met by this course include 21st Century Challenges and Areas of Inquiry: Natural Sciences.

GRADING

Final grades will be assigned based on a points system. Points are earned throughout the semester by completing weekly activities on MindTap, weekly quizzes on Canvas, five reflection paragraphs and two exams. Each activity is described in more detail below. A schedule listing all assignments and due dates is posted in the "Course Essentials" module on Canvas. Total points available are shown in the table below.

Category (# of assignments)	Points Available
Weekly MindTap Activities (13)	60 (12 x 5 points each; lowest score is dropped)
Weekly Canvas Quizzes (13)	120 (12 x 10 points each; lowest score is dropped)
Reflection Questions (5)	100 (5 x 20 points each)
Exam 1	60
Exam 2	60
Total:	400

The chart below shows how final letter grades will correspond to total points earned:

Letter grade	Point Range
A	360 – 400
B+	340 – 359
B	320 – 339
C+	300 – 319
C	260 – 299
D	200 – 259
F	0 – 199

MINDTAP ACTIVITIES

Every Mon, a short problem set related to the week's lecture topics will become available on MindTap. Each problem set is worth 5 points. You may work through each problem set an unlimited number of times. Your highest score will be recorded in the gradebook. Problem sets are due the following Sunday night at 11:59pm. There will be 13 problem sets throughout the semester and the lowest score will be dropped.

CANVAS QUIZZES

Every Thurs morning, a quiz will become available on Canvas. Each quiz will contain 10 questions (multiple choice, T/F, fill-in-the-blank) covering material from lectures on Mon and Wed of that week. You will have 20 minutes to complete the quiz. You may take each quiz up to two times, and your highest score will be counted. Quizzes are due on Sundays by 11:59pm. There will be 13 quizzes throughout the semester and the lowest score will be dropped.

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

Five times during the semester, I will post a link on Canvas to a short news article, along with a few questions. News articles will deal with a course topic and questions will ask you to analyze legal, ethical, and/or social issues relevant to that topic. Each reflection submission is worth 20 points. Questions for reflection will become available on Monday of Weeks 3, 5, 9, 11 and 13. Reflection responses will be due on the following Sunday at 11:59pm.

EXAMS

There will be two exams in this course. They will be held online via the course Canvas site. Each exam will be 1 hour and 20 minutes. Exam 1 will be held on Wed March 9 at the scheduled lecture time (2pm – 3:20pm). Exam 2 will be held at a date and time that follows Rutgers Final Exam Schedule.

Makeup exams will be scheduled at my discretion, in cases of illness or unexpected emergency. If a makeup exam is requested, I must be notified within 12 hours of the scheduled exam period.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Students are expected to maintain the highest level of academic integrity. You should be familiar with the university [policy on academic integrity](#). Violations will be reported and enforced according to this policy.

Use of external website resources such as Chegg.com or others to obtain solutions to homework assignments, quizzes, or exams is cheating and a violation of the University Academic Integrity policy. Cheating in the course may result in grade penalties, disciplinary sanctions or educational sanctions. Posting homework assignments, or exams, to external sites without the instructor's permission may be a violation of copyright and may constitute the facilitation of dishonesty, which may result in the same penalties as plain cheating.

Almost all original work is the intellectual property of its authors. These works may include syllabi, lecture slides, recorded lectures, homework problems, exams, and other materials, in either printed or electronic form. The authors may hold copyrights in these works, which are protected by U.S. statutes. Copying this work or posting it online without the permission of the author may violate the author's rights. More importantly, these works are the product of the author's efforts; respect for these efforts and for the author's intellectual property rights is an important value that members of the university community take seriously.

For more instructions on copyright protections at Rutgers University, please refer to the [Rutgers Libraries](#).

STUDENT-WELLNESS SERVICES

Counseling, ADAP & Psychiatric Services (CAPS)

(848) 932-7884 / 17 Senior Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901 / <http://health.rutgers.edu/medical-counseling-services/counseling/>

CAPS is a University mental health support service that includes counseling, alcohol and other drug assistance, and psychiatric services staffed by a team of professionals within Rutgers Health services to support students' efforts to succeed at Rutgers University. CAPS offers a variety of services that include: individual therapy, group therapy and workshops, crisis intervention, referral to specialists in the community, and consultation and collaboration with campus partners.

Crisis Intervention : <http://health.rutgers.edu/medical-counseling-services/counseling/crisis-intervention/>

Report a Concern: <http://health.rutgers.edu/do-something-to-help/>

Violence Prevention & Victim Assistance (VPVA)

848) 932-1181 / 3 Bartlett Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901 / www.vpva.rutgers.edu/

The Office for Violence Prevention and Victim Assistance provides confidential crisis intervention, counseling and advocacy for victims of sexual and relationship violence and stalking to students, staff and faculty. To reach staff during office hours when the university is open or to reach an advocate after hours, call 848-932-1181.

Disability Services

(848) 445-6800 / Lucy Stone Hall, Suite A145, Livingston Campus, 54 Joyce Kilmer Avenue, Piscataway, NJ 08854 / <https://ods.rutgers.edu/>

Rutgers University welcomes students with disabilities into all of the University's educational programs. In order to receive consideration for reasonable accommodations, a student with a disability must contact the appropriate disability services office at the campus where you are officially enrolled, participate in an intake interview, and provide documentation: <https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/documentation-guidelines>. If the documentation supports your request for reasonable accommodations, your campus's disability services office will provide you with a Letter of Accommodations. Please share this letter with your instructors and discuss the accommodations with

them as early in your courses as possible. To begin this process, please complete the Registration form on the ODS web site at: <https://ods.rutgers.edu/students/registration-form>.