

Important Information for the Final Exam

Biology 1110-001, Fall 2008

Dr. Warner

- **Very important note:** If you have questions about the grading of your third exam, I will review these until the last day of class (12/9). I will NOT accept any regrades after this date!
- **THE FORMAT OF THE FINAL!** The final will be **100 questions** - all are **multiple choice** and computer graded (OpScan). There will be a section on the test for **new material** covered since exam 3 (approximately 30-35%). The rest of the test will be **cumulative**.
 - **The NEW material will require you to do some reading on your own for a few topics.** This will be noted on the website.
- **Every student must take the final exam** (departmental policy). The final counts a minimum of 30% if it is lower than all of your previous three exams. If the final is higher than one of your three previous exams, the final counts 30% as the final, and 20% to replace the low grade. See the detailed grading policy in the syllabus (which is also on the class website). The final can make a big difference in your course grade so study hard!
- **The course is graded on a 10 point scale. There are no curves!**
- **How to calculate your grade:** Take your three exam grades and predict what you want to make on the final (this gives a total of 4 grades).
 - **Option A:** If your goal is for the final is **higher** than one of the three previous exams, substitute the final grade for the low score. Use the formula on the syllabus to calculate your grade.
 - **Option B:** If the final is not higher, then take all four numbers and calculate your grade
 - **NOTE:** You will have to estimate your 10% attendance to add to the formula.
- **Extra credit?** You have the portfolio option that was presented on the first day of class. The portfolio can also add 3 points to your course average.
- Do not even think about missing the final exam and asking to make it up at a later date!!!!
- The exam schedule is listed here - Please be on time. This is from the UNCC schedule located at: <http://www.registrar.uncc.edu/calendars/exam.htm#fall08>
 - There is a **2 hour time limit** on the final exam. The exam is in this room.
Tuesday, December 16 from 8:00 - 10:00 am

- If you have 3 finals scheduled within a 24 hour period, you are entitled to reschedule one of them (the middle exam). Please let me know immediately if you need this type of accommodation. The final day that I will entertain these requests is December 5.

I will be making announcements in class over the two weeks concerning review sessions and other important announcements. Make sure to be in class!

Portfolio Information:

- All portfolios are due by **Wednesday, December 10 at 12:00pm**. You may turn them in to my office or drop them off with the departmental administrative assistant in room 257. **Please turn them in earlier if possible**. You will be turning in your biology journal, the **3 written assignments** of your choice as well as the final assignment (**critical reflection**). This is worth a maximum of 3 points on your course average. Remember that the **quality** of your assignments determines the number of points you receive for your portfolio.

How to study:

- Begin studying as soon as possible.
 - For the **cumulative part**, start with your old tests. Correct everything you missed and make sure you understand the answers. Think about how short answer questions could be reformatted as multiple choice questions. Then review your study questions and notes. **Your old exams are an excellent resource**.
 - You have hundreds of questions to study from on the old exams, in your course pack, on SI sheets, and from the practice quizzes on my website.
 - Use the keys for the old exams which are available on the website. Print out a blank version and use it to quiz yourself before you get the key. Remember the questions and choices are scrambled so the order on your exam will be different.
 - For the **new material**: Just keep up on a daily basis and review your lecture notes and keep going to SI. Do the study questions in the course pack. There is a practice quiz for new material on the website.

Studying for the final doesn't require a 2 day cram if you start now! A little review each day really takes the pressure off during finals week.