Bioinformatics, genomics, and proteomics are rapidly advancing fields that integrate the tools and knowledge from biology, chemistry, computer science, mathematics, physics, and statistics in research at the intersection of the biological and informational sciences. Inspired by the enormous amount of biological data that are being generated from the sequencing of genomes, these new fields will help us pose and answer biological questions that have long been considered too complex to address. Research in genomics, proteomics, and bioinformatics will also significantly impact society affecting medicine, culture, economics, and politics.

The Bioinformatics, Genomics, and Proteomics curriculum involves faculty from the Biology, Chemistry, Computer Science, Mathematics/Statistics, and Physics departments and was designed to provide students with an understanding of these revolutionary new areas of investigation. Students interested in graduate work in bioinformatics, genomics, and proteomics should take the BiGP courses and their prerequisites. Interested students are also encouraged to participate in independent research with members of the advisory faculty as they explore the development of these new fields.

**BIGP Courses**

**BIMO 321 (F) Biochemistry I: Structure and Function of Biological Molecules (QFR)**

**Cross-listings:** BIMO 321 BIOL 321 CHEM 321

**Primary Cross-listing**

This course introduces the foundational concepts of biochemistry with an emphasis on the structure and function of biological macromolecules. Specifically, the structure of proteins and nucleic acids are examined in detail in order to determine how their chemical properties and their biological behavior result from those structures. Other topics covered include catalysis, enzyme kinetics, mechanism and regulation; the molecular organization
of biomembranes; and the flow of information from nucleic acids to proteins. In addition, the principles and applications of the methods used to characterize macromolecules in solution and the interactions between macromolecules are discussed. The laboratory provides a hands-on opportunity to study macromolecules and to learn the fundamental experimental techniques of biochemistry including electrophoresis, chromatography, and principles of enzymatic assays.

Class Format: lecture, three times per week and laboratory, four hours per week

Requirements/Evaluation: quizzes, a midterm exam, a final exam, problem sets and performance in the laboratories including lab reports

Prerequisites: BIOL 101 and CHEM 251/255 and CHEM 155/256

Enrollment Limit: 16/lab

Enrollment Preferences: junior and senior Biology and Chemistry majors and BIMO concentrators

Expected Class Size: 48

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Unit Notes: does not satisfy the distribution requirement for the Biology major; cannot be counted towards the Biology major in addition to BIOL 222

Distributions: (D3) (QFR)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

BIMO 321 (D3) BIOL 321 (D3) CHEM 321 (D3)

Quantitative/Formal Reasoning Notes: This course fulfills the QFR requirement with regular problem sets in which quantitative/formal reasoning skills are practiced.

Attributes: BIGP Courses  BIMO Required Courses

Fall 2022

LAB Section: 03  T 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm

LEC Section: 01  MWF 10:00 am - 10:50 am  Amy Gehring

LAB Section: 02  M 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm

LAB Section: 04  R 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm

BIMO 322  (S)  Biochemistry II: Metabolism  (QFR)

Cross-listings: BIOL 322  CHEM 322  BIMO 322

Primary Cross-listing

This lecture course provides an in-depth presentation of the complex metabolic reactions that are central to life. Emphasis is placed on the biological flow of energy including alternative modes of energy generation (aerobic, anaerobic, photosynthetic); the regulation and integration of the metabolic pathways including compartmentalization and the transport of metabolites; and biochemical reaction mechanisms including the structures and mechanisms of coenzymes. This comprehensive study also includes the biosynthesis and catabolism of small molecules (carbohydrates, lipids, amino acids, and nucleotides). Laboratory experiments introduce the principles and procedures used to study enzymatic reactions, bioenergetics, and metabolic pathways.

Class Format: Lecture three hours per week and laboratory two hours per week.

Requirements/Evaluation: several exams and performance in the laboratories including lab reports that emphasize conceptual and quantitative and/or graphic analysis of data

Prerequisites: BIOL 101 and CHEM 251/255 or permission of instructor

Enrollment Limit: 60

Enrollment Preferences: junior and senior Biology and Chemistry majors and BIMO concentrators

Expected Class Size: 60

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Unit Notes: cannot be counted towards the Biology major in addition to BIOL 222

Distributions: (D3) (QFR)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

BIOL 322 (D3) CHEM 322 (D3) BIMO 322 (D3)
Quantitative/Formal Reasoning Notes: The laboratory program is quantitative covering data analyses, numerical transformations, graphical displays.
Attributes: BIGP Courses  BIMO Required Courses

Spring 2023
LEC Section: 01  TR 11:20 am - 12:35 pm  Pei-Wen  Chen
LAB Section: 02  T 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm  Janis E. Bravo
LAB Section: 03  W 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm  Pei-Wen  Chen
LAB Section: 04  R 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm  Janis E. Bravo

BIOL 202  (F)  Genetics  (QFR)
Genetics, classically defined as the study of heredity, is today a multidisciplinary field whose principles provide critical insight and tools to most areas of biology and medicine. This course covers the experimental basis for our current understanding of the inheritance, structures, and functions of genes. It introduces approaches used by contemporary geneticists and molecular biologists to explore questions in areas of biology ranging from evolution to medicine. A primary focus of the course is on students developing familiarity with problem solving, the logic and quantitative reasoning required to understand how genetic mechanisms lead to biological patterns. The laboratory part of the course provides an experimental introduction to modern genetic analysis as well as introductions to interpreting genetic reasoning in the primary research literature. Laboratory experiments include investigating chromosome structure using microscopy, integrating multiple streams of evidence to map a mutation to the genome, determining the structure of a DNA plasmid using molecular tools.
Class Format: Lecture: three hours per week, Lab: three hours per week.
Requirements/Evaluation: bi-weekly problem sets; weekly laboratory exercises and laboratory reports; three exams
Prerequisites: BIOL 101 and 102
Enrollment Limit: 120
Enrollment Preferences: students interested in the Biology major
Expected Class Size: 60
Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option
Unit Notes: does not satisfy the distribution requirement for the Biology major
Distributions: (D3)  (QFR)
Quantative/Formal Reasoning Notes: This course develops quantitative skills through solving problems. Students learn to apply basic calculations and logic to predict the outcomes of biological systems, for example, describing the likelihood that an individual will be affected by an inherited disease. Application of quantitative and logical analysis contributes to a large component of the in-class work and the graded material for the class, in the form of problem sets, exams, and data analysis for lab reports.
Attributes: BIGP Courses  BIMO Required Courses

Fall 2022
LEC Section: 01  MWF 11:00 am - 11:50 am  David W. Loehlin
LAB Section: 02  M 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm  Derek  Dean
LAB Section: 04  W 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm  Derek  Dean
LAB Section: 03  T 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm  Derek  Dean
LAB Section: 05  R 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm  Derek  Dean

BIOL 305  (S)  Evolution  (QFR)
This course offers a critical analysis of contemporary concepts in biological evolution. We focus on the relation of evolutionary mechanisms (e.g., selection, drift, and migration) to long term evolutionary patterns (e.g., evolutionary innovations, origin of major groups, and adaptation). Topics include micro-evolutionary models, natural and sexual selection, speciation, the inference of evolutionary history, evolutionary medicine among others.
Requirements/Evaluation: independent research project, problem sets, participation in discussions and exams
Prerequisites: BIOL 202
Enrollment Limit: 22
Enrollment Preferences: Seniors and biology majors
Expected Class Size: 22
Grading: yes pass/fail option, yes fifth course option
Unit Notes: satisfies the distribution requirement for the Biology major
Distributions: (D3) (QFR)
Quantitative/Formal Reasoning Notes: We will use mathematical models to study population genetics.
Attributes: BIGP Courses BIMO Interdepartmental Electives COGS Related Courses

Spring 2023
LAB Section: 02 W 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm Luana S. Maroja
LAB Section: 03 R 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm Luana S. Maroja
LEC Section: 01 MWF 11:00 am - 11:50 am Luana S. Maroja

BIOL 319 (S) Integrative Bioinformatics, Genomics, and Proteomics Lab (QFR)
Cross-listings: MATH 319 CHEM 319 BIOL 319 PHYS 319 CSCI 319
Primary Cross-listing

What can computational biology teach us about cancer? In this lab-intensive experience for the Genomics, Proteomics, and Bioinformatics program, computational analysis and wet-lab investigations will inform each other, as students majoring in biology, chemistry, computer science, mathematics/statistics, and physics contribute their own expertise to explore how ever-growing gene and protein data-sets can provide key insights into human disease. In this course, we will take advantage of one well-studied system, the highly conserved Ras-related family of proteins, which play a central role in numerous fundamental processes within the cell. The course will integrate bioinformatics and molecular biology, using database searching, alignments and pattern matching, and phylogenetics to reconstruct the evolution of gene families by focusing on the gene duplication events and gene rearrangements that have occurred over the course of eukaryotic speciation. By utilizing high through-put approaches to investigate genes involved in the inflammatory and MAPK signal transduction pathways in human colon cancer cell lines, students will uncover regulatory mechanisms that are aberrantly altered by siRNA knockdown of putative regulatory speciation. This functional genomic strategy will be coupled with independent projects using phosphorylation-state specific antisera to test our hypotheses. Proteomic analysis will introduce the students to de novo structural prediction and threading algorithms, as well as data-mining approaches and Bayesian modeling of protein network dynamics in single cells. Flow cytometry and mass spectrometry may also be used to study networks of interacting proteins in colon tumor cells.

Class Format: The lab for this course will meet for two afternoons per week. Some lab sessions will be shorter than 3 hours.
Requirements/Evaluation: lab participation, several short homework assignments, one lab report, a programming project, and a grant proposal
Prerequisites: BIOL 202; students who have not taken BIOL 202 but have taken BIOL 101 and a CSCI course, or CSCI/PHYS 315, may enroll with permission of instructor. No prior computer programming experience is required.
Enrollment Limit: 12
Enrollment Preferences: seniors, then juniors, then sophomores
Expected Class Size: 12
Grading: yes pass/fail option, no fifth course option
Unit Notes: does not satisfy the distribution requirement for the Biology major
Distributions: (D3) (QFR)
This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:
MATH 319 (D3) CHEM 319 (D3) BIOL 319 (D3) PHYS 319 (D3) CSCI 319 (D3)
Quantitative/Formal Reasoning Notes: Through lab work, homework sets and a major project, students will learn or further develop their skills in programming in Python, and about the basis of Bayesian approaches to phylogenetic tree estimation.
Attributes: BIGP Courses BIMO Interdepartmental Electives
BIOL 321 (F) Biochemistry I: Structure and Function of Biological Molecules (QFR)

Cross-listings: BIMO 321 BIOL 321 CHEM 321

Secondary Cross-listing
This course introduces the foundational concepts of biochemistry with an emphasis on the structure and function of biological macromolecules. Specifically, the structure of proteins and nucleic acids are examined in detail in order to determine how their chemical properties and their biological behavior result from those structures. Other topics covered include catalysis, enzyme kinetics, mechanism and regulation; the molecular organization of biomembranes; and the flow of information from nucleic acids to proteins. In addition, the principles and applications of the methods used to characterize macromolecules in solution and the interactions between macromolecules are discussed. The laboratory provides a hands-on opportunity to study macromolecules and to learn the fundamental experimental techniques of biochemistry including electrophoresis, chromatography, and principles of enzymatic assays.

Class Format: lecture, three times per week and laboratory, four hours per week

Requirements/Evaluation: quizzes, a midterm exam, a final exam, problem sets and performance in the laboratories including lab reports

Prerequisites: BIOL 101 and CHEM 251/255 and CHEM 155/256

Enrollment Limit: 16/16

Enrollment Preferences: junior and senior Biology and Chemistry majors and BIMO concentrators

Expected Class Size: 48

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Unit Notes: does not satisfy the distribution requirement for the Biology major; cannot be counted towards the Biology major in addition to BIOL 222

Distributions: (D3) (QFR)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:
BIMO 321 (D3) BIOL 321 (D3) CHEM 321 (D3)

Quantative/Formal Reasoning Notes: This course fulfills the QFR requirement with regular problem sets in which quantitative/formal reasoning skills are practiced.

Attributes: BIGP Courses BIMO Required Courses

BIOL 322 (S) Biochemistry II: Metabolism (QFR)

Cross-listings: BIOL 322 CHEM 322 BIMO 322

Secondary Cross-listing
This lecture course provides an in-depth presentation of the complex metabolic reactions that are central to life. Emphasis is placed on the biological flow of energy including alternative modes of energy generation (aerobic, anaerobic, photosynthetic); the regulation and integration of the metabolic pathways including compartmentalization and the transport of metabolites; and biochemical reaction mechanisms including the structures and mechanisms of coenzymes. This comprehensive study also includes the biosynthesis and catabolism of small molecules (carbohydrates, lipids, amino acids, and nucleotides). Laboratory experiments introduce the principles and procedures used to study enzymatic reactions, bioenergetics, and metabolic pathways.

Class Format: Lecture three hours per week and laboratory two hours per week.

Requirements/Evaluation: several exams and performance in the laboratories including lab reports that emphasize conceptual and quantitative
BIOL 330  (S)  Genomes: Structure, Function, Evolution

Genome sequencing technologies have opened the "book of life" to biologists. But making sense of genomes is still a work in progress. This course will examine central features of genomes, their evolution, and their contribution to human diseases such as cancer. Genome biology is a new field, and this presents the opportunity to learn science as it is being done. Biologists working today started out knowing nothing about core features of genomes, such as why most of the DNA is repetitive, or why segments of genes get removed in the RNA, or why silenced genes wake up in cancer cells. They began to find meaning by adopting dual perspectives of function and neutral evolution. Students will learn to walk these same paths and learn to evaluate for themselves what genome complexity means. In lab, students will develop hands-on and computational skills for investigating genome structural variation, then apply them in the second half of the semester in independent lab investigations.

Class Format: lectures, three hours a week; laboratory, three hours a week.

Requirements/Evaluation: Written responses to readings in primary literature; three take-home written exams; two laboratory reports; oral presentation of an independent laboratory project.

Prerequisites: BIOL 202

Enrollment Limit: 24

Expected Class Size: 24

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Unit Notes: does not satisfy the distribution requirement for the biology major.

Distributions: (D3)

Attributes: BIGP Courses  BIMO Interdepartmental Electives

Spring 2023

LAB Section: 02  M 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm  David W. Loehlin
LAB Section: 01  MWF 9:00 am - 9:50 am  David W. Loehlin
LAB Section: 03  T 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm  David W. Loehlin
Research in genomics has integrated and revolutionized the field of biology, including areas of medicine, plant biology, microbiology, and evolutionary biology. Moreover, recent developments in “metagenomics” (genomic studies of entire communities of microorganisms in natural environments, such as the mammalian gut and the deep sea) and “metatranscriptomics” (studies of genome wide changes in expression and mRNA levels in natural communities of organisms) have generated unprecedented knowledge about the genomic potential of a community and the in situ biological activity of different ecological niches. In this course we will explore how research in these and related areas, including proteomics, have advanced our fundamental understanding of (1) organisms in the three domains of life, and their interactions and evolutionary relationships; (2) biological systems and environments, such as the human body, extreme environments, and the oceans; (3) strategies for solving global challenges in medicine, agriculture, energy resources, and environmental sciences. During the course, students will meet each week for one hour with a tutorial partner and the instructor. Every other week, students will present a written and oral critical analysis of the assigned research articles. On alternate weeks, students will question/critique the work of their colleague.

Requirements/Evaluation: five (4-5 page) papers, tutorial presentations, and the student's effectiveness as a critic

Prerequisites: BIOL 202 recommended

Enrollment Limit: 10

Enrollment Preferences: open to juniors and seniors; senior Biology majors who have not taken a 400-level course

Expected Class Size: 10

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Unit Notes: BIMO, BIGP; does not satisfy the distribution requirement for the Biology major

Distributions: (D3) (WS)

Writing Skills Notes: Weekly written assignments consisting of four-page critique papers (five total during a semester) and two-page response papers (five total during a semester). Students will receive from the instructor timely comments on their writing skills, with suggestions for improvement.

Attributes: BIGP Courses BIMO Interdepartmental Electives

Not offered current academic year

CHEM 319  (S) Integrative Bioinformatics, Genomics, and Proteomics Lab  (QFR)

Cross-listings: MATH 319  CHEM 319  BIOL 319  PHYS 319  CSCI 319

Secondary Cross-listing

What can computational biology teach us about cancer? In this lab-intensive experience for the Genomics, Proteomics, and Bioinformatics program, computational analysis and wet-lab investigations will inform each other, as students majoring in biology, chemistry, computer science, mathematics/statistics, and physics contribute their own expertise to explore how ever-growing gene and protein data-sets can provide key insights into human disease. In this course, we will take advantage of one well-studied system, the highly conserved Ras-related family of proteins, which play a central role in numerous fundamental processes within the cell. The course will integrate bioinformatics and molecular biology, using database searching, alignments and pattern matching, and phylogenetics to reconstruct the evolution of gene families by focusing on the gene duplication events and gene rearrangements that have occurred over the course of eukaryotic speciation. By utilizing high through-put approaches to investigate genes involved in the inflammatory and MAPK signal transduction pathways in human colon cancer cell lines, students will uncover regulatory mechanisms that are aberrantly altered by siRNA knockdown of putative regulatory components. This functional genomic strategy will be coupled with independent projects using phosphorylation-state specific antisera to test our hypotheses. Proteomic analysis will introduce the students to de novo structural prediction and threading algorithms, as well as data-mining approaches and Bayesian modeling of protein network dynamics in single cells. Flow cytometry and mass spectrometry may also be used to study networks of interacting proteins in colon tumor cells.

Class Format: The lab for this course will meet for two afternoons per week. Some lab sessions will be shorter than 3 hours.

Requirements/Evaluation: lab participation, several short homework assignments, one lab report, a programming project, and a grant proposal

Prerequisites: BIOL 202; students who have not taken BIOL 202 but have taken BIOL 101 and a CSCI course, or CSCI/PHYS 315, may enroll with permission of instructor. No prior computer programming experience is required.

Enrollment Limit: 12

Enrollment Preferences: seniors, then juniors, then sophomores

Expected Class Size: 12

Grading: yes pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Unit Notes: does not satisfy the distribution requirement for the Biology major
Distributions:  (D3)  (QFR)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

MATH 319 (D3) CHEM 319 (D3) BIOL 319 (D3) PHYS 319 (D3) CSCI 319 (D3)

Quantative/Formal Reasoning Notes:  Through lab work, homework sets and a major project, students will learn or further develop their skills in programming in Python, and about the basis of Bayesian approaches to phylogenetic tree estimation.

Attributes:  BIGP Courses  BIMO Interdepartmental Electives

Spring 2023

LAB Section: 02    TR 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm     Lois M. Banta
SEM Section: 01    TR 9:55 am - 11:10 am     Lois M. Banta

CHEM 321  (F)  Biochemistry I: Structure and Function of Biological Molecules  (QFR)

Cross-listings:  BIMO 321  BIOL 321  CHEM 321

Secondary Cross-listing

This course introduces the foundational concepts of biochemistry with an emphasis on the structure and function of biological macromolecules. Specifically, the structure of proteins and nucleic acids are examined in detail in order to determine how their chemical properties and their biological behavior result from those structures. Other topics covered include catalysis, enzyme kinetics, mechanism and regulation; the molecular organization of biomembranes; and the flow of information from nucleic acids to proteins. In addition, the principles and applications of the methods used to characterize macromolecules in solution and the interactions between macromolecules are discussed. The laboratory provides a hands-on opportunity to study macromolecules and to learn the fundamental experimental techniques of biochemistry including electrophoresis, chromatography, and principles of enzymatic assays.

Class Format:  lecture, three times per week and laboratory, four hours per week

Requirements/Evaluation:  quizzes, a midterm exam, a final exam, problem sets and performance in the laboratories including lab reports

Prerequisites:  BIOL 101 and CHEM 251/255 and CHEM 155/256

Enrollment Limit:  16/lab

Enrollment Preferences:  junior and senior Biology and Chemistry majors and BIMO concentrators

Expected Class Size:  48

Grading:  no pass/fail option,  no fifth course option

Unit Notes:  does not satisfy the distribution requirement for the Biology major;  cannot be counted towards the Biology major in addition to BIOL 222

Distributions:  (D3)  (QFR)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

BIMO 321 (D3) BIOL 321 (D3) CHEM 321 (D3)

Quantative/Formal Reasoning Notes:  This course fulfills the QFR requirement with regular problem sets in which quantitative/formal reasoning skills are practiced.

Attributes:  BIGP Courses  BIMO Required Courses

Fall 2022

LAB Section: 03    T 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm
LAB Section: 04    R 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm
LAB Section: 02    M 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm
LEC Section: 01    MWF 10:00 am - 10:50 am     Amy Gehring

CHEM 322  (S)  Biochemistry II: Metabolism  (QFR)

Cross-listings:  BIOL 322  CHEM 322  BIMO 322

Secondary Cross-listing
This lecture course provides an in-depth presentation of the complex metabolic reactions that are central to life. Emphasis is placed on the biological flow of energy including alternative modes of energy generation (aerobic, anaerobic, photosynthetic); the regulation and integration of the metabolic pathways including compartmentalization and the transport of metabolites; and biochemical reaction mechanisms including the structures and mechanisms of coenzymes. This comprehensive study also includes the biosynthesis and catabolism of small molecules (carbohydrates, lipids, amino acids, and nucleotides). Laboratory experiments introduce the principles and procedures used to study enzymatic reactions, bioenergetics, and metabolic pathways.

Class Format: Lecture three hours per week and laboratory two hours per week.

Requirements/Evaluation: several exams and performance in the laboratories including lab reports that emphasize conceptual and quantitative and/or graphic analysis of data

Prerequisites: BIOL 101 and CHEM 251/255 or permission of instructor

Enrollment Limit: 60

Enrollment Preferences: junior and senior Biology and Chemistry majors and BIMO concentrators

Expected Class Size: 60

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Unit Notes: cannot be counted towards the Biology major in addition to BIOL 222

Distributions: (D3) (QFR)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:
BIOL 322 (D3) CHEM 322 (D3) BIMO 322 (D3)

Quantative/Formal Reasoning Notes: The laboratory program is quantitative covering data analyses, numerical transformations, graphical displays.

Attributes: BIGP Courses BIMO Required Courses

Spring 2023

LAB Section: 02  T 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm  Janis E. Bravo
LEC Section: 01  TR 11:20 am - 12:35 pm  Pei-Wen Chen
LAB Section: 03  W 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm  Pei-Wen Chen
LAB Section: 04  R 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm  Janis E. Bravo

CSCI 136  (F)(S)  Data Structures and Advanced Programming  (QFR)

This course builds on the programming skills acquired in Computer Science 134. It couples work on program design, analysis, and verification with an introduction to the study of data structures. Data structures capture common ways in which to store and manipulate data, and they are important in the construction of sophisticated computer programs. Students are introduced to some of the most important and frequently used data structures: lists, stacks, queues, trees, hash tables, graphs, and files. Students will be expected to write several programs, ranging from very short programs to more elaborate systems. Emphasis will be placed on the development of clear, modular programs that are easy to read, debug, verify, analyze, and modify.

Requirements/Evaluation: programming and written assignments, quizzes, examinations

Prerequisites: CSCI 134 or equivalent; fulfilling the Discrete Mathematics Proficiency requirement is recommended, but not required

Enrollment Limit: 30;15/lab

Enrollment Preferences: if the course is over-enrolled, enrollment will be determined by lottery.

Expected Class Size: 30/sec

Grading: yes pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Unit Notes: Please see the Computer Science Department website for more information on selecting an introductory computer science class: https://csci.williams.edu/

Distributions: (D3) (QFR)

Quantative/Formal Reasoning Notes: This course include regular and substantial problem sets, labs, and/or projects in which quantitative/formal reasoning skills are practiced and evaluated.

Attributes: BIGP Courses
CSCI 315  (F)  Computational Biology  (QFR)

Cross-listings:  CSCI 315  PHYS 315

Secondary Cross-listing

This course will provide an overview of Computational Biology, the application of computational, mathematical, statistical, and physical problem-solving techniques to interpret the rapidly expanding amount of biological data. Topics covered will include database searching, DNA sequence alignment, clustering, RNA structure prediction, protein structural alignment, methods of analyzing gene expression, networks, and genome assembly using techniques such as string matching, dynamic programming, hidden Markov models, and statistics.

Requirements/Evaluation: weekly Python programming assignments, code reviews, problem sets, plus a few quizzes and a final project

Prerequisites: programming experience (e.g., CSCI 136), mathematics (PHYS/MATH 210 or MATH 150), and physical science (PHYS 142 or 151, or CHEM 151 or 153 or 155), or permission of instructor

Enrollment Limit:  10

Enrollment Preferences:  based on seniority

Expected Class Size:  8

Grading:  no pass/fail option,  no fifth course option

Distributions:  (D3)  (QFR)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:
CSCI 315  (D3)  PHYS 315  (D3)

Quantative/Formal Reasoning Notes: problem sets and programming assignments

Attributes:  BIGP Courses

Not offered current academic year

CSCI 319  (S)  Integrative Bioinformatics, Genomics, and Proteomics Lab  (QFR)

Cross-listings:  MATH 319  CHEM 319  BIOL 319  PHYS 319  CSCI 319

Secondary Cross-listing

What can computational biology teach us about cancer? In this lab-intensive experience for the Genomics, Proteomics, and Bioinformatics program, computational analysis and wet-lab investigations will inform each other, as students majoring in biology, chemistry, computer science, mathematics/statistics, and physics contribute their own expertise to explore how ever-growing gene and protein data-sets can provide key insights into human disease. In this course, we will take advantage of one well-studied system, the highly conserved Ras-related family of proteins, which play a central role in numerous fundamental processes within the cell. The course will integrate bioinformatics and molecular biology, using database searching, alignments and pattern matching, and phylogenetics to reconstruct the evolution of gene families by focusing on the gene duplication events and gene rearrangements that have occurred over the course of eukaryotic speciation. By utilizing high through-put approaches to investigate
genes involved in the inflammatory and MAPK signal transduction pathways in human colon cancer cell lines, students will uncover regulatory mechanisms that are aberrantly altered by siRNA knockdown of putative regulatory components. This functional genomic strategy will be coupled with independent projects using phosphorylation-state specific antisera to test our hypotheses. Proteomic analysis will introduce the students to de novo structural prediction and threading algorithms, as well as data-mining approaches and Bayesian modeling of protein network dynamics in single cells. Flow cytometry and mass spectrometry may also be used to study networks of interacting proteins in colon tumor cells.

Class Format: The lab for this course will meet for two afternoons per week. Some lab sessions will be shorter than 3 hours.

Requirements/Evaluation: lab participation, several short homework assignments, one lab report, a programming project, and a grant proposal

Prerequisites: BIOL 202; students who have not taken BIOL 202 but have taken BIOL 101 and a CSCI course, or CSCI/PHYS 315, may enroll with permission of instructor. No prior computer programming experience is required.

Enrollment Limit: 12

Enrollment Preferences: seniors, then juniors, then sophomores

Expected Class Size: 12

Grading: yes pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Unit Notes: does not satisfy the distribution requirement for the Biology major

Distributions: (D3) (QFR)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

MATH 319 (D3) CHEM 319 (D3) BIOL 319 (D3) PHYS 319 (D3) CSCI 319 (D3)

Quantative/Formal Reasoning Notes: Through lab work, homework sets and a major project, students will learn or further develop their skills in programming in Python, and about the basis of Bayesian approaches to phylogenetic tree estimation.

Attributes: BIGP Courses BIMO Interdepartmental Electives

Spring 2023

SEM Section: 01 TR 9:55 am - 11:10 am Lois M. Banta
LAB Section: 02 TR 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm Lois M. Banta

NSCI 322 (F) From Order to Disorder(s): The Role of Genes & the Environment in Psychopathology

Cross-listings: NSCI 322 PSYC 312

Secondary Cross-listing

This course examines how experimental methods in neuroscience can be used to understand the role of nature (genes) and nurture (the environment) in shaping the brain and behavior. In particular, we will explore how neuroscience informs our understanding of psychiatric disorders such as anxiety, depression, and schizophrenia. We will investigate the biological underpinning of these disorders as well as their treatments. Readings will include human studies as well as work based on animal models. Topics will include: the ways in which environmental and genetic factors shape risk and resiliency in the context of psychiatric disease, the neural circuits and peripheral systems that contribute to psychopathology, and the mechanisms through which interventions may act. In the laboratory component of the course, students will gain hands-on experience in using animal models to study complex behavior and their associated neural mechanisms.

Requirements/Evaluation: class presentations, participation in discussions, two article previews (1-2 pages each), literature review (5 pages), research project proposal (5 pages), oral presentation of project proposal.

Prerequisites: PSYC 212 (same as BIOL 212 or NSCI 201)

Enrollment Limit: 19

Enrollment Preferences: Psychology majors and Neuroscience concentrators

Expected Class Size: 19

Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

Distributions: (D3)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:
PHY 315  (F)  Computational Biology  (QFR)

Cross-listings:  CSCI 315  PHYS 315

Primary Cross-listing

This course will provide an overview of Computational Biology, the application of computational, mathematical, statistical, and physical problem-solving techniques to interpret the rapidly expanding amount of biological data. Topics covered will include database searching, DNA sequence alignment, clustering, RNA structure prediction, protein structural alignment, methods of analyzing gene expression, networks, and genome assembly using techniques such as string matching, dynamic programming, hidden Markov models, and statistics.

Requirements/Evaluation:  weekly Python programming assignments, code reviews, problem sets, plus a few quizzes and a final project

Prerequisites:  programming experience (e.g., CSCI 136), mathematics (PHYS/MATH 210 or MATH 150), and physical science (PHYS 142 or 151, or CHEM 151 or 153 or 155), or permission of instructor

Enrollment Limit:  10

Enrollment Preferences:  based on seniority

Expected Class Size:  8

Grading:  no pass/fail option,  no fifth course option

Distributions:  (D3)  (QFR)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

CSCI 315 (D3)  PHYS 315 (D3)

Quantative/Formal Reasoning Notes:  problem sets and programming assignments

Attributes:  BIGP Courses

Not offered current academic year

PHY 319  (S)  Integrative Bioinformatics, Genomics, and Proteomics Lab  (QFR)

Cross-listings:  MATH 319  CHEM 319  BIOL 319  PHYS 319  CSCI 319

Secondary Cross-listing

What can computational biology teach us about cancer? In this lab-intensive experience for the Genomics, Proteomics, and Bioinformatics program, computational analysis and wet-lab investigations will inform each other, as students majoring in biology, chemistry, computer science, mathematics/statistics, and physics contribute their own expertise to explore how ever-growing gene and protein data-sets can provide key insights into human disease. In this course, we will take advantage of one well-studied system, the highly conserved Ras-related family of proteins, which play a central role in numerous fundamental processes within the cell. The course will integrate bioinformatics and molecular biology, using database searching, alignments and pattern matching, and phylogenetics to reconstruct the evolution of gene families by focusing on the gene duplication events and gene rearrangements that have occurred over the course of eukaryotic speciation. By utilizing high throughput approaches to investigate genes involved in the inflammatory and MAPK signal transduction pathways in human colon cancer cell lines, students will uncover regulatory mechanisms that are aberrantly altered by siRNA knockdown of putative regulatory components. This functional genomic strategy will be coupled with independent projects using phosphorylation-state specific antisera to test our hypotheses. Proteomic analysis will introduce the students to de novo structural prediction and threading algorithms, as well as data-mining approaches and Bayesian modeling of protein network dynamics in single cells. Flow cytometry and mass spectrometry may also be used to study networks of interacting proteins in colon tumor cells.

Class Format:  The lab for this course will meet for two afternoons per week.  Some lab sessions will be shorter than 3 hours.

Requirements/Evaluation:  lab participation, several short homework assignments, one lab report, a programming project, and a grant proposal

Prerequisites:  BIOL 202; students who have not taken BIOL 202 but have taken BIOL 101 and a CSCI course, or CSCI/PHYS 315, may enroll with permission of instructor. No prior computer programming experience is required.

Enrollment Limit:  12
**Enrollment Preferences:** seniors, then juniors, then sophomores

**Expected Class Size:** 12

**Grading:** yes pass/fail option, no fifth course option

**Unit Notes:** does not satisfy the distribution requirement for the Biology major

**Distributions:** (D3) (QFR)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

MATH 319 (D3) CHEM 319 (D3) BIOL 319 (D3) PHYS 319 (D3) CSCI 319 (D3)

**Quantitative/Formal Reasoning Notes:** Through lab work, homework sets and a major project, students will learn or further develop their skills in programming in Python, and about the basis of Bayesian approaches to phylogenetic tree estimation.

**Attributes:** BIGP Courses BIMO Interdepartmental Electives

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Spring 2023

SEM Section: 01    TR 9:55 am - 11:10 am     Lois M. Banta
LAB Section: 02    TR 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm     Lois M. Banta

**PSYC 312 (F) From Order to Disorder(s): The Role of Genes & the Environment in Psychopathology**

**Cross-listings:** NSCI 322  PSYC 312

**Primary Cross-listing**

This course examines how experimental methods in neuroscience can be used to understand the role of nature (genes) and nurture (the environment) in shaping the brain and behavior. In particular, we will explore how neuroscience informs our understanding of psychiatric disorders such as anxiety, depression, and schizophrenia. We will investigate the biological underpinning of these disorders as well as their treatments. Readings will include human studies as well as work based on animal models. Topics will include: the ways in which environmental and genetic factors shape risk and resiliency in the context of psychiatric disease, the neural circuits and peripheral systems that contribute to psychopathology, and the mechanisms through which interventions may act. In the laboratory component of the course, students will gain hands-on experience in using animal models to study complex behavior and their associated neural mechanisms.

**Requirements/Evaluation:** class presentations, participation in discussions, two article previews (1-2 pages each), literature review (5 pages), research project proposal (5 pages), oral presentation of project proposal.

**Prerequisites:** PSYC 212 (same as BIOL 212 or NSCI 201)

**Enrollment Limit:** 19

**Enrollment Preferences:** Psychology majors and Neuroscience concentrators

**Expected Class Size:** 19

**Grading:** no pass/fail option, no fifth course option

**Distributions:** (D3)

This course is cross-listed and the prefixes carry the following divisional credit:

NSCI 322 (D3) PSYC 312 (D3)

**Attributes:** BIGP Courses NSCI Group B Electives PSYC Area 1 - Behavioral Neuroscience

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Fall 2022

SEM Section: 01    TR 9:55 am - 11:10 am     Victor A. Cazares

**STAT 410 (F) Statistical Genetics (QFR)**

Genetic studies explore patterns of genetic variation in populations and the effect of genes on diseases or traits. This course provides an introduction to statistical and computational methods for genetic studies. Topics will include Mendelian traits (such as single nucleotide polymorphisms), genome-wide association studies, pathway-based analysis, and methods for population genetics. Students will be introduced to some of the major computational tools for genetic analysis, including PLINK and R/Bioconductor. The necessary background in genetics and biology will be provided alongside the statistical and computational methods.
Requirements/Evaluation: project work, homework, exams, and contribution to discussion
Prerequisites: STAT 346 and STAT 360, or permission of instructor
Enrollment Limit: 14
Enrollment Preferences: Statistics majors, juniors and seniors
Expected Class Size: 10
Grading: no pass/fail option, no fifth course option
Distributions: (D3) (QFR)
Quantitative/Formal Reasoning Notes: This is a statistics class with a focus on mathematical, computational, and data analysis skills as well as appropriate practical application of analysis methods.
Attributes: BIGP Courses PHLH Statistics Courses
Not offered current academic year