

**AGR 11500 Syllabus
Fall 2021**

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Joe Ogas
office: WSLR B020
tel: 496-3969
e-mail: ogas@purdue.edu

Office hours: by appointment

INSTRUCTIONAL

ASSISTANT: Ms. Heidi Fornes, Undergraduate Program Coordinator
office: BCHM 120
tel: 494-1612
e-mail: hforbes@purdue.edu

LECTURE TIME AND PLACE

Thursdays, August 26 - October 14, 1:30-2:20, BCHM 105

All lectures will be recorded and will be available for students who cannot attend a class or who would like to review a lecture. They can be downloaded at [MediaSpace](#) in Kaltura and available in the course media gallery in Brightspace (Course Tools -> Kaltura Media Gallery).

COURSE OBJECTIVES

AGR 11500 is the Departmental section of AGR 10100. As such, its primary role is to prepare you for success as an undergraduate in the Department of Biochemistry. The course will provide an overview of the curriculum with an emphasis on the scientific process, critical thinking, and undergraduate research. We will also emphasize the importance of career development in non-classroom settings.

DEPARTMENTAL LEARNING OUTCOMES ADDRESSED BY THIS COURSE

AGR 11500 students will gain practice with key aspects of the scientific method, including developing hypotheses, designing experiments, and critically analysis of results to create new knowledge.

AGR 11500 students will communicate scientific knowledge, experiments and conclusions effectively as speakers and writers.

AGR 11500 students will locate, evaluate, and utilize information in the disciplines of biochemistry and molecular biology as required for research, data analysis, and communication in the field of Biochemistry.

AGR 11500 students will gain awareness of the ethical issues facing professionals in the life sciences.

AGR 11500 students will critically analyze the contributions of our discipline to society, including improvements to medicine, agriculture, the economy and the environment.

TEXTBOOK

There is no assigned textbook for this course. Lectures will have associated reading materials that will be provided electronically.

BRIGHTSPACE

The syllabus for the course, lecture notes, and assignments will be available via the Purdue University Brightspace site at: <https://purdue.brightspace.com> Lecture materials will be available the day before class and should be printed off and brought to class.

HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS

You are expected to complete all reading and/or writing assignments before class on the date indicated. An electronic copy of each writing assignment is due by midnight two days before class (Tuesday) to Brightspace. A hard copy of the writing assignment should also be brought to class on that day. 2 or more points will be awarded for satisfactory completion of each homework assignment.

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS

There will be multiple in-class assignments that will be submitted electronically. 2-4 points will be awarded for the successful completion of each assignment.

GRADING

There are no exams for AGR 11500.

Grading Scale for AGR 11500

A+, A = 93-100 percent
A- = 90.0-92.9 percent
B+ = 87.0-89.9 percent
B = 83.0-86.9 percent
B- = 80.0-82.9 percent
C+ = 77.0-79.9 percent
C = 73.0-76.9 percent
C- = 70.0-72.9 percent
D+ = 67.0-69.9 percent
D = 63.0-66.9 percent
D- = 60.0-62.9 percent
F = <60 percent

Note – Up to **1 extra credit point may be awarded per class** in AGR 11500 based on degree of participation. Total points awarded in class cannot exceed total possible points available without extra credit.

OBTAINING EXTRA HELP

Dr. Ogas will be available to answer your questions immediately after class or by appointment (arranged in class or by e-mail). Alternatively, you can submit questions by e-mail that can be answered in class or by return e-mail

ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION

Course materials are available at <https://purdue.brightspace.com/> Lecture materials will be available the day before class and should be printed off and brought to class.

You are expected to attend and to be attentive to the presentations at all class sessions. Each student will be called on (or will volunteer) a minimum of three times and will be awarded 3 points for each contribution.

- **Students that are more than 5 minutes late to class will be marked as tardy. Students that are more than 10 minutes late to class will be marked as absent. Due to the participatory nature of this course, greater than 1 unexcused absence or greater than two tardies will result in a failing grade. Absences resulting from adhering to best practices on COVID-19 as outlined in the [Protect Purdue Pledge for Fall 2021](#) on the Protect Purdue website will be excused. Please contact me if you have any questions/concerns regarding such an absence.**

ACADEMIC GUIDANCE IN THE EVENT A STUDENT IS QUARANTINED/ISOLATED

If you must miss class at any point in time during the semester, please reach out to me via email so that we can communicate about how you can maintain your academic progress. If you find yourself too sick to progress in the course, notify your adviser and notify me via email or Brightspace. We will make arrangements based on your particular situation. Please note that, according to [Details for Students on Normal Operations for Fall 2021](#) announced on the Protect Purdue website, “individuals who test positive for COVID-19 are not guaranteed remote access to all course activities, materials, and assignments.”

CLASSROOM GUIDANCE REGARDING PROTECT PURDUE PLAN

As Protect Purdue protocols continue to evolve, please refer to the Protect Purdue information (a link is provided within the course Brightspace) for the latest updates.

Any student who has substantial reason to believe that another person is threatening the safety of others by not complying with Protect Purdue protocols is encouraged to report the behavior to and discuss the next steps with their instructor. Students also have the option of reporting the behavior to the [Office of the Student Rights and Responsibilities](#). See also [Purdue University Bill of Student Rights](#) and the Violent Behavior Policy under University Resources in Brightspace.

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

Academic misconduct of any kind will not be tolerated in any course offered by the Department of Biochemistry. Information on Purdue's policies with regard to academic misconduct can be found at http://www.purdue.edu/studentregulations/student_conduct/regulations.html

Any incidence of academic misconduct will be reported to the Office of the Dean of Students. Academic misconduct may result in disciplinary sanctions including expulsion, suspension, probated suspension, disciplinary probation, and/or educational sanctions. In addition, such misconduct will result in punitive grading such as:

- receiving a lower or failing grade on the assignment, or
- assessing a lower or failing grade for the course

Punitive grading decisions will be made after consultation with the Office of the Dean of Students. Please note reported incidences of academic misconduct go on record for

reference by other instructors. Further, a record of academic misconduct is likely to influence how current/future situations are handled.

To provide you with an unambiguous definition of academic misconduct, the following text has been excerpted from "Academic Integrity: A Guide for Students", written by Stephen Akers, Ph.D., Executive Associate Dean of Students (1995, Revised 1999, 2003), and published by the Office of the Dean of Students in cooperation with Purdue Student Government, Schleman Hall of Student Services, Room 207, 475 Stadium Mall Drive West Lafayette, IN 47907-2050.

"Purdue prohibits "dishonesty in connection with any University activity. Cheating, plagiarism, or knowingly furnishing false information to the University are examples of dishonesty." [Part 5, Section III-B-2-a, *Student Regulations*] Furthermore, the University Senate has stipulated that "the commitment of acts of cheating, lying, and deceit in any of their diverse forms (such as the use of substitutes for taking examinations, the use of illegal cribs, plagiarism, and copying during examinations) is dishonest and must not be tolerated. Moreover, knowingly to aid and abet, directly or indirectly, other parties in committing dishonest acts is in itself dishonest." [University Senate Document 72-18, December 15, 1972]

More specifically, the following are a few examples of academic dishonesty which have been discovered at Purdue University.

- substituting on an exam for another student
- substituting in a course for another student
- paying someone else to write a paper and submitting it as one's own work
- giving or receiving answers by use of signals during an exam
- copying with or without the other person's knowledge during an exam
- doing class assignments for someone else
- plagiarizing published material, class assignments, or lab reports
- turning in a paper that has been purchased from a commercial research firm or obtained from the internet
- padding items of a bibliography
- obtaining an unauthorized copy of a test in advance of its scheduled administration
- using unauthorized notes during an exam
- collaborating with other students on assignments when it is not allowed
- obtaining a test from the exam site, completing and submitting it later
- altering answers on a scored test and submitting it for a regrade
- accessing and altering grade records
- stealing class assignments from other students and submitting them as one's own
- fabricating data
- destroying or stealing the work of other students

Plagiarism is a special kind of academic dishonesty in which one person steals another person's ideas or words and falsely presents them as the plagiarist's own product. This is most likely to occur in the following ways:

- using the exact language of someone else without the use of quotation marks and without giving proper credit to the author
- presenting the sequence of ideas or arranging the material of someone else even though such is expressed in one's own words, without giving appropriate acknowledgment

- submitting a document written by someone else but representing it as one's own”

Academic integrity is one of the highest values that Purdue University holds. Individuals are encouraged to alert university officials to potential breaches of this value by either emailing integrity@purdue.edu or by calling 765-494-8778. While information may be submitted anonymously, the more information that is submitted provides the greatest opportunity for the university to investigate the concern.

Purdue's Honor Pledge was developed by students to advance a supportive environment that promotes academic integrity and excellence. It is intended that this pledge inspires Boilermakers of all generations to stay "on track" to themselves and their University. "As a boilermaker pursuing academic excellence, I pledge to be honest and true in all that I do. Accountable together - we are Purdue."

NOTICE OF COPYRIGHT PROTECTION OF COURSE MATERIALS

Among the materials that may be protected by copyright law are the lectures, notes, and other material presented in class or as part of the course. Always assume the materials presented by an instructor are protected by copyright unless the instructor has stated otherwise. Students enrolled in, and authorized visitors to, Purdue University courses are permitted to take notes, which they may use for individual/group study or for other non-commercial purposes reasonably arising from enrollment in the course or the University generally.

Notes taken in class are, however, generally considered to be "derivative works" of the instructor's presentations and materials, and they are thus subject to the instructor's copyright in such presentations and materials. No individual is permitted to sell or otherwise barter notes, either to other students or to any commercial concern, for a course without the express written permission of the course instructor. To obtain permission to sell or barter notes, the individual wishing to sell or barter the notes must be registered in the course or must be an approved visitor to the class. Course instructors may choose to grant or not grant such permission at their own discretion, and may require a review of the notes prior to their being sold or bartered. If they do grant such permission, they may revoke it at any time, if they so choose.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

In the event of a major campus emergency, course requirements, deadlines and grading percentages are subject to changes that may be necessitated by a revised semester calendar or other circumstances beyond the instructor's control. Relevant changes to this course will be posted onto the course website or can be obtained by contacting the instructors or TAs via email or phone. You are expected to read your @purdue.edu email on a frequent basis.

ON-LINE COURSE EVALUATIONS

During the last two weeks of this course, you will be provided an opportunity to evaluate this course and your instructor(s). To this end, Purdue has transitioned to online course evaluations. On Monday of the 7th week of classes, you will receive an official email from evaluation administrators with a link to the online evaluation site. You will have two weeks to complete this evaluation. Your participation in this evaluation is an integral part of this course. Your feedback is vital to improving education at Purdue University. I strongly urge you to participate in the evaluation system.

NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY

Purdue University's non-discrimination policy will be upheld in this classroom. Purdue University is committed to maintaining a community which recognizes and values the inherent worth and dignity of every person; fosters tolerance, sensitivity, understanding, and mutual respect among its members; and encourages each individual to strive to reach his or her own potential. In pursuit of its goal of academic excellence, the University seeks to develop and nurture diversity. The University believes that diversity among its many members strengthens the institution, stimulates creativity, promotes the exchange of ideas, and enriches campus life. A hyperlink to Purdue's full Nondiscrimination Policy Statement is included in the course Brightspace under University Policies.

MENTAL HEALTH/WELLNESS

If you find yourself beginning to feel some stress, anxiety and/or feeling slightly overwhelmed, try [WellTrack](#). Sign in and find information and tools at your fingertips, available to you at any time.

If you need support and information about options and resources, please contact or see the [Office of the Dean of Students](#). Call 765-494-1747. Hours of operation are M-F, 8 am- 5 pm.

If you find yourself struggling to find a healthy balance between academics, social life, stress, etc. sign up for free one-on-one virtual or in-person sessions with a [Purdue Wellness Coach at RecWell](#). Student coaches can help you navigate through barriers and challenges toward your goals throughout the semester. Sign up is completely free and can be done on BoilerConnect. If you have any questions, please contact Purdue Wellness at evans240@purdue.edu.

If you're struggling and need mental health services: Purdue University is committed to advancing the mental health and well-being of its students. If you or someone you know is feeling overwhelmed, depressed, and/or in need of mental health support, services are available. For help, such individuals should contact [Counseling and Psychological Services \(CAPS\)](#) at 765-494-6995 during and after hours, on weekends and holidays, or by going to the CAPS office on the second floor of the Purdue University Student Health Center (PUSH) during business hours.

ACCESSIBILITY AND ACCOMODATIONS

Purdue University is committed to making learning experiences accessible. If you anticipate or experience physical or academic barriers based on disability, you are welcome to let me know so that we can discuss options. You are also encouraged to contact the Disability Resource Center at: drc@purdue.edu or by phone: 765-494-1247.

BASIC NEEDS SECURITY

Any student who faces challenges securing their food or housing and believes this may affect their performance in the course is urged to contact the Dean of Students for support. There is no appointment needed and Student Support Services is available to serve students 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Considering the significant disruptions caused by the current global crisis as it related to COVID-19, students may submit requests for emergency assistance from the [Critical Needs Fund](#)

DISCLAIMER

This syllabus is subject to change.

Lecture Schedule (subject to revision)

<u>Week</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Date</u>
1	Introductions	26-Aug
2	Biochemistry Curriculum	2-Sep
3	Biochemistry Curriculum/future careers	9-Sep
4	Undergraduate research	16-Sep
5	Scientific process	23-Sep
6	Generating hypotheses	30-Sep
7	Testing hypotheses	7-Oct
8	Experimental design	14-Oct