Instructor: Dr. Stephen M. Testa

Office Hours: Tuesday 12:20-1:50 pm, Thursday 12:20-1:50 pm (or by appointment)

Office: CP-315
Phone: 257-7076
E-mail: testa@uky.edu

Textbook and Attendance:
The textbook “Fundamentals of Biochemistry, Upgrade Edition” by Voet, Voet, and Pratt (published by John Wiley & Sons, Inc) is required. Any other sources that might be used will be detailed in the class notes. Since not all the material covered can be found in a textbook, I highly recommend you attend class.

Grading Policy:
Three exams will count toward your grade, each worth 25 points. Taking the final exam is optional and can be used to replace your previous lowest test grade. The remaining 25 points will come from a written report, which cannot be replaced.
The final grade will be determined as follows: The scores of the top 10% will be averaged, anyone getting within 90% of this score will receive an A grade; within 80% a B grade; within 70% a C grade; within 60% a D grade, less than 60% an F grade.

Differentiation of undergraduate and graduate students:
Graduate and undergraduate students, as required by the university, are held up to different standards in all 400G and 500 level courses. In this course, this rule manifests itself in the requirements for the written report. Graduate student reports must be more in depth, longer, and contain more references. Therefore, for undergraduates the report must consist of 1300 words and have at least 6 primary references. For graduate students the report must consist of 2000 words and have at least 12 primary references.

Other:
Please make sure all cell phones are off before entering the classroom. Eating during class is permitted, but please sit in the back and do not eat anything that would be disruptive to you neighbors. Tape recording my lectures is fine, but you MUST see me first. If you are having difficulty with my course (for ANY reason), please let me know promptly so that we can work on a solution before it becomes too much of a problem.
**Tentative Course Content (Spring 2005)**

**Section #1**

1/13  (Day 1):  Introduction to this course  
1/18  (Day 2): - Intro to nucleic acids / electrophoresis  
1/20  (Day 3):  DNA replication / restriction mapping  
1/25  (Day 4): - Transcription / reverse transcription  
1/27  (Day 5):  Translation / sequencing  
2/1   (Day 6): - Translation #2 / subcloning  
2/3   (Day 7):  Regulation / PCR  
2/8   (Day 8): - Discussion of reports, assign topics, help session for test  
2/10  (Day 9):  Test I  

**Section #2**

2/15  (Day 10):  Synthesis of nucleic acids / mutagenesis  
2/17  (Day 11): - Nucleic acid structure and stability / spectroscopy  
2/22  (Day 12):  Nucleic acid structure prediction  
2/24  (Day 13): - Nucleic acid structure-function relationships / hybridization  
3/1   (Day 14):  Paper #1 (Class Discussion)  
3/3   (Day 15): - help session for test  
3/8   (Day 16):  Test II  
3/10  (Day 17):  TBA  

**Section #3**

3/22  (Day 18): - Chemical mapping / evolution  
3/24  (Day 19):  Viruses  
3/29  (Day 20): - Protein-nucleic acid interactions / SELEX / enzymes  
3/31  (Day 21):  Biotechnology (Class Discussion)  
4/5   (Day 22):  TBA  
4/7   (Day 23):  TBA  
4/12  (Day 24): - Paper #2 (Class Discussion)  
4/14  (Day 25):  **Hand in reports**, Paper #3 (Class Discussion)  
4/19  (Day 26): - Class discussion of reports  
4/21  (Day 27): - help session for test  
4/26  (Day 28): - Test III  
4/28  (Day 29):  TBA  

**Final Exam**

5/3  (Day 30):  Final Exam (11:00 am)