

Life Science 3M03: Cellular Dynamics Fall 2014

INSTRUCTORS:

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INSTRUCTIONAL ASSISTANT:

Sunita Nadella	BSB 111	LS3A03@mcmaster.ca
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COURSE DESCRIPTION:

In this course we will examine how a cell interacts with its microenvironment and its neighbouring cells. Using current techniques in cell imaging, we will begin with an examination of the biochemical and physical properties of the single cell and progress towards an understanding of tissue morphogenesis and development. The topics will be taken in the context of the impact of diseases, pathogens, and chemicals on diverse biological systems.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

By the end of this course students will be able to:

- Read, interpret, and concisely summarize current research in the field of cell biology
- Understand chemical and physical principles that underlie cell behaviour
- See the importance of understanding underlying principles and models in the study of human health

PREREQUISITES:

Life Sciences 2A03 and Biology 2B03, Physics any level 1, enrolment in an Honours program in the Faculty of Science.

FORMAT:

There are three 50 minute lectures per week. An online Discussion Board will be utilized to further discuss lecture content.

This course uses Avenue to Learn to post the course outline, assignments, and other notices. Go to <http://avenue.mcmaster.ca/> to log-on to the course's home page.

COURSE EVALUATION:

Four tests, 25% each- top 3 marks	Total of 75%
Outline of Research Proposal, group	10%
Final Research Proposal, group (due at the end of the term)	15%

All four tests must be completed with a passing grade. The top 3 of 4 test marks will contribute to your final grade. If you submit an MSAF, a zero will be recorded for that one test and the mark will be dropped.

There is no final exam in Life Science 3M03.

REQUESTS FOR RELIEF FOR MISSED ACADEMIC TERM WORK

Students may report absences lasting up to 5 days by using the McMaster Student Absence Form (**MSAF**) on-line, self-reporting tool, in order to request relief for missed academic work.

Students may use this tool to submit a maximum of ONE request for relief of missed academic work per term.

IMPORTANT: You must put LS3M03, as the contact (LS3M03@mcmaster.ca) on the MSAF form and immediately after using the online tool, students MUST contact the Instructional Assistant (nadella@mcmaster.ca) regarding the nature of the relief. Failure to do so may negate the opportunity for relief.

CHANGES TO THE COURSE OUTLINE:

At certain points in the course it may make good sense to modify the schedule outlined. The instructor reserves the right to modify elements of the course and will notify students accordingly, both in class and on Avenue to Learn). Posted changes take precedence over this course outline.

The University may change the dates and deadlines for any or all courses in extreme circumstances. If either type of modification becomes necessary, reasonable notice and communication with the students will be given with explanation and the opportunity to comment on changes. It is the responsibility of the student to check their McMaster email and course websites weekly during the term and to note any changes.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:

You are expected to exhibit honesty and use ethical behaviour in all aspects of the learning process. Academic credentials you earn are rooted in principles of honesty and academic integrity.

Academic dishonesty is to knowingly act or fail to act in a way that results or could result in unearned academic credit or advantage. This behaviour can result in serious consequences, e.g. the grade of zero on an assignment, loss of credit with a notation on the transcript (notation reads: "Grade of F assigned for academic dishonesty"), and/or suspension or expulsion from the university.

It is your responsibility to understand what constitutes academic dishonesty. For information on the various types of academic dishonesty please refer to the Academic Integrity Policy, located at <http://www.mcmaster.ca/academicintegrity>

The following illustrates only three forms of academic dishonesty:

1. Plagiarism, e.g. the submission of work that is not one's own or for which other credit has been obtained.
2. Improper collaboration in group work,. While we encourage you to work with your peers in solving problems on your assignments, copying of answers is not acceptable. Your final work must be your own.
3. Copying or using unauthorized aids in tests and examinations.

Grades obtained in LS 3MO3 will be converted according to the following scheme, which is the one in general use at McMaster University.

90 – 100%	A+	12
85 – 89%	A	11
80 – 84%	A-	10
77 – 79%	B+	9
73 – 76%	B	8
70 – 72%	B-	7
67 – 69%	C+	6
63 – 66%	C	5
60 – 62%	C-	4
57 – 59%	D+	3
53 – 56%	D	2
50 – 52%	D-	1
0 – 49%	F	0

All grade concerns and discrepancies must be reported to the Instructional Assistant, Sunita Nadella within two weeks of receiving your grade for each course component.

When the final marks are obtained, ALL borderline cases will be reviewed and, where warranted, adjustments will be made in the final mark.