Many thanks for choosing Introduction to Molecular and Cellular Biology and welcome to your course. I am Renaud Geslain your instructor. I have been a passionate professional molecular biologist for over 20 years, and I am very excited to share with you all the marvels of my favorite field.

**Course description**
BIOL 111 is a foundation course for science majors emphasizing the concepts of structure and function in biological systems at the molecular and cellular levels. Topics include biochemistry, biochemical and molecular evolution, cell function, respiration, photosynthesis, genetics and molecular biology. Together we will describe the functions of the most fundamental biomolecules of life, such as DNA, RNA, proteins, carbohydrates and lipids; more importantly we will discuss their relevance to the world we live in.

**Course learning outcomes**
After completing this course and having actively participated in discussions and assignments you will be able to:
- Identify the biomolecules and organelles of the cell and explain their functions.
- Explain the conversion, storage and use of energy in the processes of photosynthesis, cellular respiration and fermentation.
- Describe the phases of the cell cycle, mitosis and meiosis.
- Explain the functions and molecular mechanisms of DNA replication, RNA transcription and protein translation.
- Describe the molecular and cellular aspects of viral, bacterial, parasitic, and non-contagious diseases that are prevalent in Latin America such as HIV, Malaria, TB, Chagas disease, Dengue, Zika, Chikungunya and cancer.
- Identify and use the appropriate academic resources and student support services at College of Charleston. These include the Addleston library, information technology, the Center for Student Learning, the Career Center, and other appropriate academic resources, student support services, and cultural resources.
**Peer facilitator and Synthesis Seminar**
Your Peer Facilitator is Reed Haneberg (hanebergr@g.cofc.edu). FYESS meets 01:00 pm-01:50 pm on Monday in BELL 315.

**SI Leader**
Your SI leader is Caitlin McDade (mcdadece@g.cofc.edu). The schedule for SI sessions will be available soon.

**Do I need to be computer savvy to take this course?**
Not really; the few teaching tools that we will be using this semester have a straightforward interface. However, you will need a reliable Internet connection, a laptop or other computer, some knowledge of OAKS. For all computer, software or access problems, please contact:
1. Student Computing Support (843-953-5457; studentcomputingsupport@cofc.edu)
2. Helpdesk (843-953-3375; helpdesk@cofc.edu)

**How do I know what to study?**
Easy! This course is organized in 5 modules. Each module will last three weeks. Modules will open sequentially and remain open until the end of the course.

Each module consists in 3 submodules:
1. “Get ready for lectures” including for each lecture a teaser video, all the PowerPoint slides and a list of keywords.
2. “Put your knowledge into practice” including a series of non-graded problems to apply and evaluate the knowledge acquired in the module.
3. “Earn points” including up to six assignments and one quiz.

**What should I do if I have a course related question?**
The great news is that we are all going to help you!
1. Write your question on our Discussion Board anytime.
2. Give your classmates some time to read your question and post their answer.
3. Reply to your thread to thank participants and indicate whether you received the help you needed or if you need further assistance. Please be patient and never give up until you got your answer.

New question? Start a new thread and repeat the process.

**What should I do if I have a personal issue?**
If your issue cannot be addressed on the Discussion Board, please remember that I am here for you personally throughout the semester.
1. Contact me by email anytime and allow me up to 24 hours to reply on weekdays and up to 48 hours on weekends.
2. Need to speak to me instead? Stop by my office (RITA121) anytime or request an appointment by email if you prefer a Zoom Meeting.

**Do you have scheduled office hours?**
I am always happy to help. Stop by my office (RITA121) anytime or request an appointment by email if you prefer a Zoom Meeting.

**SNAP Accommodations**
I want all motivated students to succeed in this course.
If you have an approved SNAP accommodation (Center for Disability Services/SNAP), please email me the Professor Notification Letter and discuss your needs during the first week of class via email.
Do you have any tips on how to succeed in this course?

1. Be prepared to spend a fair amount of time working within each content module, participating to lectures and engaging in discussions.
2. I encourage you to prepare schedule to work through each module in order to best manage your time and stay productive. The great news is that all modules share the same structure and that your schedule will most certainly carry from one module to the other.
3. Never give up. I understand that it will take some time to get used to the way things are organized. Once you get it however, molecular and cell biology will become a pleasant routine.
4. Expect to spend about 6-8 hours per week reading, participating to lectures, attending one SI session and preparing assignments.
5. Regularly check the course OAKS page, log in at least 4 days per week.
6. Ask questions related to course content and readings as they arise.
7. Attend one SI session per week.

Academic Integrity

You are responsible for understanding and adhering to College policies regarding academic honesty, as specified in the current Student Handbook:  [http://studentaffairs.cofc.edu/honor-system/studenthandbook/index.php](http://studentaffairs.cofc.edu/honor-system/studenthandbook/index.php)

All work must be original and must reflect careful preparation. Standards of originality and thorough preparation require that the viewpoint, structure, and style of writing and presentations be your own. The undocumented use of someone else’s words or ideas in any medium is a serious offense, subject to disciplinary action that may include failure in the course and/or dismissal from the College. Please remember that unauthorized collaboration—working together without permission—is a form of cheating.

Not sure to do the right thing? Please ask me for assistance, I am always happy to help.

### Grading Scale and Assessment

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<th>Assessment</th>
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FYSS with Reed Haneberg

**Synthesis Seminar participation** 5  
**TOTAL** 100
I will gladly honor your request to address you by the name and gender pronouns of your choice. Please advise me of this early in the semester via your college-issued email account or during office hours so that I may make the appropriate notation on my class list.
Below, please find eight additional syllabus statements that were drafted by our administration and that are common to all Fall 2022 courses:

**Academic Integrity**
Lying, cheating, attempted cheating, and plagiarism are violations of our Honor Code that, when suspected, are investigated. Each incident will be examined to determine the degree of deception involved. Incidents where the instructor determines the student’s actions are related more to misunderstanding and confusion will be handled by the instructor. The instructor designs an intervention or assigns a grade reduction to help prevent the student from repeating the error. The response is recorded on a form and signed both by the instructor and the student. It is forwarded to the Office of the Dean of Students and placed in the student’s file. Cases of suspected academic dishonesty will be reported directly by the instructor and/or others having knowledge of the incident to the Dean of Students. A student found responsible by the Honor Board for academic dishonesty will receive a XXF in the course, indicating failure of the course due to academic dishonesty. This status indicator will appear on the student’s transcript for two years after which the student may petition for the XX to be expunged. The F is permanent. Students can find the complete Honor Code and all related processes in the Student Handbook at: [http://deanofstudents.cofc.edu/honor-system/studenthandbook/](http://deanofstudents.cofc.edu/honor-system/studenthandbook/).

**Accommodations for Students with Disabilities**
Any student eligible for and needing accommodations because of a disability is requested to speak with the professor during the first two weeks of class or as soon as the student has been approved for services so that reasonable accommodations can be arranged.

**OAKS**
OAKS, including Gradebook, will be used for this course throughout the semester to provide the syllabus and class materials and grades for each assignment, which will be regularly posted.

**Inclement Weather, Pandemic or Substantial Interruption of Instruction**
If in-person classes are suspended, faculty will announce to their students a detailed plan for a change in modality to ensure the continuity of learning. All students must have access to a computer equipped with a web camera, microphone, and Internet access. Resources are available to provide students with these essential tools.

**F2F courses when students are quarantined/isolated due to Covid-19**
If one or more students are absent for an extended period of time due to COVID-19 (quarantine or isolation), instructors may, at their discretion, conduct the class exclusively online via OAKS for the duration of student quarantine/isolation, record class lessons to share with students, or choose an alternate accommodation that provides the impacted student(s) with the opportunity to continue in the course. The specific accommodation will vary depending on the number of students affected, the expected duration of their absence, and the needs of the class.

**Attendance Verification**
Only students officially registered (graded or auditing) for this course may attend class. During the week following the drop/add deadline, the professor will verify student enrollments in this course. Any student appearing on the class roll but determined not to have attended the class even once will be removed, except for cases where a student is absent because of quarantine or isolation due to COVID-19.
**Mental & Physical Wellbeing:**
At the college, we take every students’ mental and physical wellbeing seriously. If you find yourself experiencing physical illnesses, please reach out to student health services (843.953.5520). And if you find yourself experiencing any mental health challenges (for example, anxiety, depression, stressful life events, sleep deprivation, and/or loneliness/homesickness) please consider contacting either the Counseling Center (professional counselors at [http://counseling.cofc.edu](http://counseling.cofc.edu) or 843.953.5640 3rd Robert Scott Small Building) or the Students 4 Support (certified volunteers through texting "4support" to 839863, visit [http://counseling.cofc.edu/cct/index.php](http://counseling.cofc.edu/cct/index.php), or meet with them in person 3rd Floor Stern Center). These services are there for you to help you cope with difficulties you may be experiencing and to maintain optimal physical and mental health.

**Food & Housing Resources:**
Many CofC students report experiencing food and housing insecurity. If you are facing challenges in securing food (such as not being able to afford groceries or get sufficient food to eat every day) and housing (such as lacking a safe and stable place to live), please contact the Dean of Students for support ([http://studentaffairs.cofc.edu/about/salt.php](http://studentaffairs.cofc.edu/about/salt.php)). Also, you can go to [http://studentaffairs.cofc.edu/student-food-housing-insecurity/index.php](http://studentaffairs.cofc.edu/student-food-housing-insecurity/index.php) to learn about food and housing assistance that is available to you. In addition, there are several resources on and off campus to help. You can visit the Cougar Pantry in the Stern Center (2nd floor), a student-run food pantry that provides dry-goods and hygiene products at no charge to any student in need. Please also consider reaching out to Professor ABC if you are comfortable in doing so.

The College of Charleston offers many resources for LGBTQ+ students, faculty and staff along with their allies.

- [Preferred Name and Pronoun Information](#)
- [On Campus Gender Inclusive facilities](#)
- [Campus Resources](#)
- [College of Charleston Reporting Portals](#)
- [National Resources for Faculty & Staff](#)
- [GSEC Reports](#)
- [Documenting LGBTQ Life in the Lowcountry](#) (CofC Addlestone Library Special Collections Project)
- [College of Charleston Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP)](#)
- [Articles about CofC and LGBTQ+ Issues](#)