



COURSE OUTLINE

1. **Course:** PLBI 401, Plant Biotechnology - Winter 2019

Lecture 01: MWF 11:00 - 11:50 in SB 105

Instructor	Email	Phone	Office	Hours
Peter Facchini	pfacchin@ucalgary.ca	403 220-7651	BI 396	TBA

Course Site:

D2L: PLBI 401 L01-(Winter 2019)-Plant Biotechnology

Note: Students must use their U of C account for all course correspondence.

2. **Requisites:**

See section [3.5.C](#) in the Faculty of Science section of the online Calendar.

Prerequisite(s):

Biology 331, 371 or 233 and one of Biochemistry 341 or 393. Also known as: (formerly Botany 401)

3. **Grading:**

The University policy on grading and related matters is described in [F.1](#) and [F.2](#) of the online University Calendar. In determining the overall grade in the course the following weights will be used:

Assignment 1	10%		
Assignment 2	10%		
Assignment 3	20%		
Midterm Exam	30%	In- Class	February 25, 2019
Final Exam	30%		

Each piece of work (reports, assignments, quizzes, midterm exam(s) or final examination) submitted by the student will be assigned a grade. The student's grade for each component listed above will be combined with the indicated weights to produce an overall percentage for the course, which will be used to determine the course letter grade.

The conversion between a percentage grade and letter grade is as follows.

	A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D
Minimum % Required	90 %	85 %	80 %	77%	73%	70 %	67 %	63%	60%	55 %	50 %

This course has a registrar scheduled final exam.

A passing grade on the final examination and laboratory reports is required to pass the course.

Deferrals of term work (including the mid-term exam): Any deferrals of term work will be arranged by the student in consultation with the lecturer for that section of the course. Deferrals will be allowed only for legitimate conflicts. Please see www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exam_info . Students should read the Attendance section in the University of Calgary Calendar at www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/e-3.html . Students will be expected to

attend examinations on the day and at the time indicated in the course outline if they have no legitimate conflicts. Medical difficulties that lead to the missing of term work will require documentation. Notification must be given to the instructor within 48 hours of absence. Documentation must be provided upon student's return to the university.

4. **Missed Components Of Term Work:**

In the event that a student misses the midterm or any course work due to illness, supporting documentation, such as a medical note or a statutory declaration will be required (see [Section N.1](#); for more information regarding the use of statutory declaration/medical notes, see [FAQ](#)). Absences must be reported within 48 hrs.

The regulations of the Faculty of Science pertaining to this matter are found in the Faculty of Science area of the Calendar in [Section 3.6](#). It is the student's responsibility to familiarize themselves with these regulations. See also [Section E.3](#) of the University Calendar.

5. **Scheduled Out-of-Class Activities:**

There are no scheduled out of class activities for this course.

6. **Course Materials:**

Required Textbook(s):

Adrian Slater, Nigel W. Scott, mark R. Fowler, *Plant Biotechnology, Second Edition*. Oxford University Press.

7. **Examination Policy:**

No aids are allowed on tests or examinations.

Students should also read the Calendar, [Section G](#), on Examinations.

8. **Approved Mandatory And Optional Course Supplemental Fees:**

There are no mandatory or optional course supplemental fees for this course.

9. **Writing Across The Curriculum Statement:**

For all components of the course, in any written work, the quality of the student's writing (language, spelling, grammar, presentation etc.) can be a factor in the evaluation of the work. See also [Section E.2](#) of the University Calendar.

10. **Human & Living Organism Studies Statements:**

Students will not participate as subjects or researchers in human studies.

See also [Section E.5](#) of the University Calendar.

STUDIES IN THE BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES INVOLVE THE USE OF LIVING AND DEAD ORGANISMS. Students taking laboratory- and field-based courses in these disciplines can expect involvement with and experimentation on such materials. Students perform dissections on dead or preserved organisms in some courses. In particular courses, students experiment on living organisms, their tissues, cells, or molecules. Sometimes field work requires students to collect a variety of living materials by many methods, including humane trapping.

All work on humans and other animals conforms to the Helsinki Declaration and to the regulations of the Canadian Council on Animal Care. The Department strives for the highest ethical standards consistent with stewardship of the environment for organisms whose use is not governed by statutory authority. Individuals contemplating taking courses or majoring in one of the fields of study offered by the Department of Biological Sciences should ensure that they have fully considered these issues before enrolling. Students are advised to discuss any concern they might have with the Undergraduate Program Director of the Department.

Students are expected to be familiar with [Section SC.4.1](#) of the University Calendar.

11. **Reappraisal Of Grades:**

A student wishing a reappraisal, should first attempt to review the graded work with the Course coordinator/instructor or department offering the course. Students with sufficient academic grounds may request

a reappraisal. Non-academic grounds are not relevant for grade reappraisals. Students should be aware that the grade being reappraised may be raised, lowered or remain the same. See [Section I.3](#) of the University Calendar.

- a. **Term Work:** The student should present their rationale as effectively and as fully as possible to the Course coordinator/instructor within **15 days** of either being notified about the mark, or of the item's return to the class. If the student is not satisfied with the outcome, the student shall immediately submit the Reappraisal of Graded Term work form to the department in which the course is offered. The department will arrange for a re-assessment of the work if, and only if, the student has sufficient academic grounds. See sections [I.1](#) and [I.2](#) of the University Calendar
- b. **Final Exam:** The student shall submit the request to Enrolment Services. See [Section I.3](#) of the University Calendar.

12. Other Important Information For Students:

- a. **Mental Health** The University of Calgary recognizes the pivotal role that student mental health plays in physical health, social connectedness and academic success, and aspires to create a caring and supportive campus community where individuals can freely talk about mental health and receive supports when needed. We encourage you to explore the mental health resources available throughout the university community, such as counselling, self-help resources, peer support or skills-building available through the SU Wellness Centre (Room 370, MacEwan Student Centre, [Mental Health Services Website](#)) and the Campus Mental Health Strategy website ([Mental Health](#)).
- b. **SU Wellness Center:** The Students Union Wellness Centre provides health and wellness support for students including information and counselling on physical health, mental health and nutrition. For more information, see www.ucalgary.ca/wellnesscentre or call [403-210-9355](tel:403-210-9355).
- c. **Sexual Violence:** The University of Calgary is committed to fostering a safe, productive learning environment. The Sexual Violence Policy (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/sexual-violence-policy.pdf>) is a fundamental element in creating and sustaining a safer campus environment for all community members. We understand that sexual violence can undermine students' academic success and we encourage students who have experienced some form of sexual misconduct to talk to someone about their experience, so they can get the support they need. The Sexual Violence Support Advocate, Carla Bertsch, can provide confidential support and information regarding sexual violence to all members of the university community. Carla can be reached by email (svsa@ucalgary.ca) or phone at [403-220-2208](tel:403-220-2208).
- d. **Misconduct:** Academic misconduct (cheating, plagiarism, or any other form) is a very serious offence that will be dealt with rigorously in all cases. A single offence may lead to disciplinary probation or suspension or expulsion. The Faculty of Science follows a zero tolerance policy regarding dishonesty. Please read the sections of the University Calendar under [Section K](#). Student Misconduct to inform yourself of definitions, processes and penalties. Examples of academic misconduct may include: submitting or presenting work as if it were the student's own work when it is not; submitting or presenting work in one course which has also been submitted in another course without the instructor's permission; collaborating in whole or in part without prior agreement of the instructor; borrowing experimental values from others without the instructor's approval; falsification/ fabrication of experimental values in a report. **These are only examples.**
- e. **Assembly Points:** In case of emergency during class time, be sure to FAMILIARIZE YOURSELF with the information on [assembly points](#).
- f. **Academic Accommodation Policy:** Students needing an accommodation because of a disability or medical condition should contact Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the procedure for accommodations for students with disabilities available at [procedure-for-accommodations-for-students-with-disabilities.pdf](#).

Students needing an accommodation in relation to their coursework or to fulfill requirements for a graduate degree, based on a protected ground other than disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to the Associate Head, Undergraduate of the Department of Biological Sciences, Heather Addy by email addy@ucalgary.ca or phone [403 220-6979](tel:403-220-6979). Religious accommodation requests relating to class, test or exam scheduling or absences must be submitted no later than **14 days** prior to the date in question. See [Section E.4](#) of the University Calendar.

- g. **Safewalk:** Campus Security will escort individuals day or night (See the [Campus Safewalk](#) website). Call [403-](tel:403-220-2208)

[220-5333](tel:403-220-5333) for assistance. Use any campus phone, emergency phone or the yellow phones located at most parking lot pay booths.

- h. **Freedom of Information and Privacy:** This course is conducted in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIPPA). Students should identify themselves on all written work by placing their name on the front page and their ID number on each subsequent page. For more information, see [Legal Services](#) website.
- i. **Student Union Information:** [VP Academic](#), Phone: [403-220-3911](tel:403-220-3911) Email: suvpaca@ucalgary.ca. SU Faculty Rep., Phone: [403-220-3913](tel:403-220-3913) Email: sciencerep@su.ucalgary.ca. Student Ombudsman, Email: suvpaca@ucalgary.ca.
- j. **Internet and Electronic Device Information:** Unless instructed otherwise, cell phones should be turned off during class. All communication with other individuals via laptop, tablet, smart phone or other device is prohibited during class unless specifically permitted by the instructor. Students that violate this policy may be asked to leave the classroom. Repeated violations may result in a charge of misconduct.
- k. **Surveys:** At the University of Calgary, feedback through the Universal Student Ratings of Instruction ([USRI](#)) survey and the Faculty of Science Teaching Feedback form provides valuable information to help with evaluating instruction, enhancing learning and teaching, and selecting courses. Your responses make a difference - please participate in these surveys.
- l. **Copyright of Course Materials:** All course materials (including those posted on the course D2L site, a course website, or used in any teaching activity such as (but not limited to) examinations, quizzes, assignments, laboratory manuals, lecture slides or lecture materials and other course notes) are protected by law. These materials are for the sole use of students registered in this course and must not be redistributed. Sharing these materials with anyone else would be a breach of the terms and conditions governing student access to D2L, as well as a violation of the copyright in these materials, and may be pursued as a case of student academic or [non-academic misconduct](#), in addition to any other remedies available at law.

Date	Topic
January 11	Introduction
January 14	Plant Genomes: DNA, Chromatin and Chromosomes
January 16	Plant Genomes: Gene Structure and Expression
January 16	Plant Genomes: Regulation of Gene Expression
January 18	Plant Genomes: Genome Size and Organization
January 21	Plant Genomes: Genome Sequencing
January 23	Plant Genomes: Next Generation Sequencing (Student Participation)
January 25	Plant Genomes: Genome-Wide Associations (Student Participation)
January 28	Plant Tissue Culture: Culture Techniques
January 28	Plant Tissue Culture: Culture Types
January 30	Plant Tissue Culture: Plant Regeneration Technologies
February 1	Plant Transformation: Agrobacterium and Ti Plasmid
February 4	Plant Transformation: T-DNA Transfer and Integration
February 6	Plant Transformation: Transformation Vectors
February 6	Plant Transformation: Particle Bombardment
February 8	Plant Transformation: CRISPR/Cas9 (Student Participation)
February 11	New(er) Technologies: 'Greener' Engineering and Forward Genetics
February 11	New(er) Technologies: Genetic Mapping and Qualitative Trait Loci
February 13	New(er) Technologies: Reverse Genetics
February 13	New(er) Technologies: Insertional Mutagenesis and TILLING
February 15	New(er) New(er) Technologies: Functional Genomics
February 15	New(er) Technologies: Transcriptomics
February 18-22	READING WEEK
February 25	Midterm Exam, In Class, One Hour

February 27	Herbicide Resistance: Glyphosate
March 1	Herbicide Resistance: Phosphinothricin and Imidazolinone
March 4	Herbicide Resistance: Societal Issues (Student Participation)
March 6	Pest Resistance: Bt Toxin
March 8	Pest Resistance: Cowpea Trypsin Inhibitor
March 11	Pest Resistance: Societal Issues (Student Participation)
March 13	Disease Resistance: Plant-Pathogen Interaction
March 13	Disease Resistance: Natural Resistance
March 15	Disease Resistance: Biotechnological Approaches
March 15	Disease Resistance: BASF Potato and Xanthomonas spp.
March 18	Viral Disease: Plant Viruses
March 20	Viral Disease: Sugar beets, Arabis Mosaic Virus, DNA Viruses
March 22	Stress Tolerance: Abiotic Stresses
March 22	Stress Tolerance: Glycine Betaine and Water Deficit Stress
March 25	Stress Tolerance: Na ⁺ /H ⁺ Antiporters and Salt Tolerance
March 25	Stress Tolerance: COR Regulon and Heat Stress
March 27	Crop Yield and Quality: Fruit Softening and Ethylene
March 27	Crop Yield and Quality: Colour and Golden Rice
March 29	Crop Yield and Quality: Protein composition and Photosynthesis
April 1	Crop Yield and Quality: Societal Issues (Student Participation)
April 3	Molecular Farming: Carbohydrates, Lipids and Starch
April 5	Molecular Farming: Bioplastics and Proteins
April 8	Molecular Farming: Antibodies and Vaccines
April 10	Molecular Farming: Societal Issues (Student Participation)
April 12	Review

Course Outcomes:

- Describe how plant biotechnology is used to develop new crop varieties
- Describe the tissue culture methods that are used to propagate plants
- Describe the general characteristics of plant genomes and plant gene regulation
- Describe the plant 'omics' and how they are important in plant biotechnology
- Have the ability to read, summarize and provide a written critique of high impact plant biotechnology research publications
- Describe how plant biotechnology can be used to increase crop yield and quality
- Describe how plant biotechnology can be used to produce value added products
- Discuss the pros and cons of plant biotechnology and crop improvement to the layperson

Department Approval:

Electronically Approved

Date: 2019-01-08 13:53