

Syllabus - BIOL 3996-740

Honors Research

SRB#235, #288

Instructor: Anastasia Sacharidou (Anastasia.sacharidou@unt.edu)

The tasks involve cell culture, biochemical assays to measure cellular function of endothelial cells, production of metabolites, change in gene expression and epigenetic regulation. The PI and student will discuss the aims of the project at the beginning of the term and at frequent intervals to make sure student is on track. Projects will be part of the ongoing work in Dr. Sacharidou's laboratory.

Attendance:

Attendance is mandatory and, therefore, expected. Attendance will be recorded during each week. No make-up review sessions will be offered to students who consistently remain absent.

Unauthorized Aids During Assessments

Students may use only those materials and resources that are expressly authorized by the instructor for a particular examination or assessment. Touching, holding, or accessing any unauthorized aid during the examination period constitutes a violation of the Student Code of Conduct, regardless of whether the aid is used.

Any item that may be considered an unauthorized aid must be kept out of view and in a closed container (e.g. zipped backpack, buttoned purse, etc.) during the entirety of the examination or assessment.

Unless specifically authorized in writing by the instructor, prohibited aids include, but are not limited to:

- Mobile phones and smartphones
- Smartwatches and fitness trackers with communication, recording, or internet capabilities
- Tablets, laptops, and other computing devices
- Earbuds, headphones, and other audio devices
- Smart glasses, cameras, recording devices, and wearable technology
- Artificial intelligence (AI) tools, chatbots, and other generative AI technologies
- Notes, textbooks, study guides, formula sheets, or reference materials
- Any other device, material, or resource not expressly permitted by the instructor

Students are responsible for clarifying any questions about permitted materials before the examination begins.

Getting Help out of the classroom:

- **Office hours:**

Office-hour meetings must be scheduled in advance through verbal or email communication. Walk-ins are **NOT** available. When my schedule permits, I may also be available for brief discussions at the end of the day.

- **Email communication**

I try very hard to respond to emails within 24 hours! If you do not hear from me within that time frame, please try sending a follow up email. In the event of high email volume, I may reply to you to acknowledge your message and give you a time frame for a full response.

Academic integrity:

The University (and the professors!) expects the highest standards of academic integrity. A description of the Code of Student Conduct and Discipline is in the student handbook and at:

http://www.unt.edu/csrr/student_conduct.htm.

Academic integrity is a hallmark of higher education. You are expected to abide by the University's code of Academic Integrity policy. Any person suspected of academic dishonesty (i.e., cheating or plagiarism) will be handled in accordance with the University's policies and procedures.

Refer to the UNT Dallas Academic Integrity Policy in the appropriate Catalog at:

<http://dallascatalog.unt.edu>.

Academic dishonesty includes but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarizing, fabrication of information or citations, facilitating acts of dishonesty by others, having unauthorized possession of examinations, submitting work of another person or work previously used without informing the instructor or tampering with the academic work of other students.

Plagiarism of any sort on any assignment or exam **WILL** result in a grade of zero for that assignment.

Important dates (registering, dropping, etc):

<http://registrar.unt.edu/registration/fall-registration-guide>

Disabilities:

The Department of Biological Sciences complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act. If you qualify, please see the instructor by the 12th day of class for accommodation.

The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodations for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodations must first register with the Disabilities Services Office (DSO) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the DSO will provide you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to the faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request accommodations at any time; however, DSO notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible during the semester to avoid any delays in implementation. Note that a student must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet/communicate with each faculty member before implementation in each class. Students are strongly encouraged to deliver letters of accommodation during faculty office hours or by appointment. Faculty members have the authority to ask students to discuss such letters during their designated office hours to protect the privacy of the student.

For additional information, see the Disability Services Office website at:

<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/office-disability-access/index.html>

Prohibited Use of Generative AI (GenAI) Software

In this course, I want you to engage deeply with the materials and develop your critical thinking and writing skills. For this reason, the use of Generative AI (GenAI) tools like Claude, ChatGPT,

and Gemini is not permitted. While these tools can be helpful in some contexts, they do not align with our goal of fostering your independent thinking. Using GenAI to complete any part of an assignment, exam, or coursework will be considered a violation of academic integrity, as it prevents the development of your own skills, and will be addressed according to the Student Academic Integrity policy. For this course, tools like Grammarly, predictive text, speech-to-text, and translation tools are considered forms of GenAI, as they blur authorship and are therefore not allowed. All work must be your own.

Disruptive Behavior in an Instructional Setting:

Students are expected to engage with the instructor and other students in this class in a respectful and civil manner at all times to promote a classroom environment that is conducive to teaching and learning. Students who engage in disruptive behavior will be directed to leave the classroom. A student who is directed to leave class due to disruptive behavior is not permitted to return to class until the student meets with a representative from the Dean of Students Office. It is the student's responsibility to meet with the Dean of Students before class meets again and to provide the instructor confirmation of the meeting. A student who is directed to leave class will be assigned an unexcused absence for that class period and any other classes the student misses as a result of not meeting with the Dean of Students. The student is responsible for material missed during all absences and the instructor is not responsible for providing missed material. In addition, the student will be assigned a failing grade for assignments, quizzes, or examinations missed and will not be allowed to make up the work.

The Code of Student's Rights, Responsibilities, and Conduct (Policy 7.001) describes disruption as the obstructing or interfering with university functions or activity, including any behavior that interferes with students, faculty, or staff access to an appropriate educational environment. Examples of disruptive behavior that may result in a student being directed to leave the classroom include but are not limited to: failure to comply with reasonable directives of University officials, action or combination of actions that unreasonably interfere with, hinder, obstruct, or prevent the right of others to freely participate, threatening, assaulting, or causing harm to oneself or to another, uttering any words or performing any acts that cause physical injury, or threaten any individual, or interfere with any individual's rightful actions, and harassment. You are encouraged to read the Code of Student's Rights, Responsibilities, and Conduct for more information related to behaviors that could be considered disruptive.