

CHEM F654: Protein Structure and Function

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Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry
Murie 113E

Lecture: TR 9:45 am – 11:15 pm
Murie Rm 130

Office Hours: 11:15-1:15 T Zoom or arrange via phone/email

CRN: [36084](#)

Prerequisite: CHEM F351 (Macromolecules)

Textbooks: The suggested textbook serves merely as a basic reference. Course material also composed of review articles and primary research literature pertinent to the topics.

- Scientific research articles and review articles (PDF via Canvas Handouts provided in class)
- David Whiteford. 2005. **Proteins: Structure and Function**. John Wiley & Sons. ISBN: 978-0471-49894-0

Course Description

This 3-credit course introduces the concept of the intricate relationships between protein structure and protein function, one of the most fundamental concepts of biochemistry. The four major topics include: 1) basic aspects of protein structure, 2) protein function, 3) protein life history, and 4) protein structure in disease. With the chemistry of amino acids as a foundation, the course will examine the constraints on protein structure/motifs that determine ultimately their biological function as well as the detrimental consequences of protein misfolding disease, particularly in the nervous system. Modern technologies to elucidate structure and function aspects of proteins are integrated.

Course Goals:

- Develop an understanding of protein structure-function relationships
- Integration of physicochemical concepts into protein folding and stability
- Become familiar with methods relevant to protein structure and function
- Navigate online information related to protein structure
- Misfolding of proteins and its consequences

Learning Outcomes

- Identify key elements in proteins to predict function and stability
- Utilize knowledge to develop strategies for protein purification/analysis
- Design approaches to elucidate protein-protein interactions
- Design proteomics approaches to the study of proteins
- Apply key concepts to contemporary research

Course Structure:

This course will be composed of lectures intended to introduce the topic (approximately 40%), discussions of relevant research articles and group work (approximately 40%), and presentations

(approximately 20%). The suggested textbook serves as a basic reference. Being prepared for discussion is essential, hence preparation and reading of material is critical.

Canvas:

Canvas (<https://canvas.alaska.edu>) will be utilized as a central communication platform for announcements, posting of lectures, and reading material. It is assumed that every student is frequently visiting blackboard to check for announcements as well as email notifications.

Course Policies:

Attendance: Regular student attendance is expected to ensure consistency in discussions and presentations. Active student participation is essential and will be accounted for in the final grade.

Exams: Two exams will be given including one midterm and one final exam (see grading for details). These exams will be take-home and consist primarily of essay questions. Importantly, **makeup exams** will only be allowed with pre-approval of the instructor or with an acceptable, documented reason such as unexpected illness, family emergencies, or other unavoidable events. The format of a make-up exam could vary from the original. Alternatively, an oral exam may also substitute if acceptable with student.

Paper discussions: Students will receive adequate preparation time for all assignments. Students will either lead a paper discussion or be responsible for explaining material associated with figures from the paper.

Presentations: Students will receive adequate preparation time for all assignments. Content and organization of topics are the primary concern however, presentation style and discussions are also subject to score (scoring sheet). In some cases, a written assignment maybe part of the oral presentation in form short answers or an essay.

Homework: Homework will consist of short answers and essays. Sufficient time will be provided for writing.

Cell phones: Cell phones should be off during class. No texting/calling during class.

Late assignments: Are not accepted. Students are given at least one week to complete assignments.

Grading:

Students will be evaluated in four basic areas: ***in-class participation***, written assignments, oral assignments, and knowledge (exams).

Evaluation Type	Points	Percent
Midterm Exam	225	25%
Final Exam	225	25%
Student lead-manuscript discussion (35pts each, 5 lead paper discussion/student)	125	12.5%
Participation in discussions* (10 pts each)	220	22%
Written and verbal homework (10pts each, 11 assignments)	110	11%
Final Project	95	9.5%
Total	1000	100%

*Participation in discussion will be based on contributing >two times during each manuscript discussion. Overall score will drop one discussion (participation) to account for absences.

- Written and oral assignment(s) will be scored as follows (detailed scoring sheet will be provided):

Content:	40%
Organization:	30%
Presentation/Format:	15%
Quality of Discussion:	15%

- Student-lead discussions: These are informal discussions and should not be a presentation of the manuscript. Instead, I want students to encourage discussion. Students that are not leading a manuscript discussion will be graded on their participation. Some aspects of discussions are to identify “missing knowledge”, understand the materials and methods used, and critique result interpretation. Students leading the discussion will be evaluated on a scoring matrix including material read (10%), understanding of methodology (20%), ability to answer questions directly related to text (50%), ability to answer questions applying learned knowledge (20%).
- Student presentations will be evaluated on a scoring matrix including organization, introduction of topic (20%), delineation of problem (10%), understanding of methodology (20%) and results (25%), discussion (10%), quality of sources (5%), and addressing audience questions (10%).

Grade:	Percentage:
A+	97-100
A	90-96
A-	88-89
B+	86-87
B	80-85
B-	78-79
C+	76-77
C	70-75
C-	68-69
D+	66-67
D	60-65
D-	58-59
F	0-57

Ethical Considerations:

The Chemistry Department’s policy of cheating is as follows: *“Any student caught cheating will be assigned a course grade of F. The student’s academic advisor will be notified of this failing grade and the student will not be allowed to drop the course”.*

Students must also adhere to UAF policies, the student code of conduct as well as the University of Alaska *Honor Code*, which states:

Students will not collaborate on any quizzes, in-class exams, or take-home exams that will contribute to their grade in a course, unless permission is granted by the instructor of the course. Only those materials permitted by the instructor may be used to assist in quizzes and examinations. Students will not represent the work of others as their own. A student will attribute the source of information not original with himself or herself (direct quotes or paraphrases) in compositions, theses, and other reports. No work submitted for one course may be submitted for credit in another course with- out the explicit

approval of both instructors. Violations of the Honor Code will result in a failing grade for the assignment and, ordinarily, for the course in which the violation occurred. Moreover, violation of the Honor Code may result in suspension or expulsion.

Plagiarism Policy:

Plagiarism is defined as the use of “other” intellectual property without proper reference to the original author. Intellectual property includes all electronic, spoken or print media **thus any information taken of the web is included under this statement**. Students are expected to cite all sources used in oral and written presentations. Cases of plagiarism will be taken seriously with a grade 0 for the particular assignment and your advisor will be notified. Severe cases may be referred to the Department Chair or Dean or class failing considered.

Disabilities

Students with a physical or learning disability are required to identify themselves to the Disability Services office, 474-7043, located in the Center for Health and Counseling. The student must provide documentation of the disability. Disability Services will then notify the instructor of special arrangements for taking tests and working homework assignments.

Computer Access: Currently Department of Computing and Communications (DCC) maintains two open labs on campus: the Bunnell Lab, and the Node (Rasmussen library). The Node has 24-hour access.

Support Services: Support can be obtained through the University of Alaska Library system, online resources, and the instructor. Additional services are available through Student Support Services (<http://www.uaf.edu/sssp/>) at UAF.

Classroom Etiquette: The purpose of this information is to assist students in understanding proper classroom behavior. The classroom should be a learning centered environment in which faculty and students are unhindered by disruptive behavior. Students are expected to maintain proper decorum in the classroom and to stay for the entire length of class. If the student plans to leave during class, they should inform the instructor prior to the start of class. The University of Alaska Fairbanks is an institution of higher education that promotes the free exchange of ideas. However, students must adhere to the rules set forth by the University and the instructor. Failure to comply with classroom rules may result in dismissal from the class and/or the University. Faculty have the authority to manage their classrooms to ensure an environment conducive to learning. The University of Alaska Student Code of Conduct (the Code), part of the Board of Regents Policy 09.02, is available at <https://www.alaska.edu/bor/policy/09-02.pdf>. You should be familiar with the Code as you will be held accountable to maintain the standards stated within. The Code includes the following statements:

P09.02.020.A As with all members of the university community, the university requires students to conduct themselves honestly and responsibly and to respect the rights of others. Students may not engage in behavior that disrupts the learning environment, violates the rights of others or otherwise violates the Student Code of Conduct (Code), university rules, regulations, or procedures. Students and student organizations will be responsible for ensuring that they and their guests comply with the Code while on property owned or controlled by the university or at activities authorized or sponsored by the university.

P09.02.030.B Behavior that occurs on property owned or controlled by the university, in university online environments and classes, or at activities sponsored by or authorized by the university, is subject to university student conduct review and disciplinary action by the university. The Student Code of Conduct may also apply to behavior that occurs off campus when it may present a potential danger or threat to the health and safety of others or may reasonably lead to a hostile environment on campus.

The Student Code of Conduct may also apply to behavior exhibited online or electronically via email, social media, text messaging, or other electronic means.

Student protections and services statement: Every qualified student is welcome in my classroom. As needed, I am happy to work with you, disability services, veterans' services, rural student services, etc. to find reasonable accommodations. Students at this university are protected against sexual harassment and discrimination (Title IX), and minors have additional protections. As required, if I notice or am informed of certain types of misconduct, then I am required to report it to the appropriate authorities. For more information on your rights as a student and the resources available to you to resolve problems, please go the following site: www.uaf.edu/handbook/.

COVID-19 Awareness: Students should keep up-to-date on the university's policies, practices, and mandates related to COVID-19 by regularly checking this website:
<https://sites.google.com/alaska.edu/coronavirus/uaf/uaf-students?authuser=0>

Further, students are expected to adhere to the university's policies, practices, and mandates and are subject to disciplinary actions if they do not comply.

Amending this Syllabus: The instructor may make changes to this syllabus. Any changes will be clearly communicated via email sent to your UAF e-mail account and posted on Canvas.

Course Schedule

Date	Topic	Reading Homework (Whitford/Papers)	Written Homework
Jan 11	Syllabus, Amino Acids	Chapter 2	Quantitative Protein Detection (Jan 25)
Jan 13	Amino Acids, Peptide Bond	Chapter 2	
Jan 18	Working with proteins Paper Discussion	Chapter 2 Lucana et al., 2021 (Weltzin)	Find one protein-based assay/technique not discussed in course or book. Be able to describe it to the class on Jan 20.
Jan 20	Share protein assay/technique Primary Structure & Secondary structure	Chapter 3	Protein Structure (1)
Jan 25	Proteomics Paper Discussions:	Makwana and Mahalakshmi 2015 (Elizabeth) Yang et al., 2020 (Cam)	
Jan 27	Tertiary and Quaternary Structures	Chapter 3	Protein Structure (2)
Feb 1	Proteomics Paper Discussions	Yan et al., 2020 (Leilani) Bornholdt et al., 2013 (Lahra)	
Feb 3	Enzyme Kinetics	Chapter 7	Enzyme Kinetics
Feb 8	Enzyme Kinetics	Chapter 7	
Feb 10	Protein Structure/Function Paper Discussions	Zhang and Chen 2016 (Elizabeth) Infield et al., 2018 (Cam)	
Feb 15	Protein Structure/Function Paper Discussions Protein function: Allosteric Regulation	Hayouka et al., 2007 (Leilani) Chapter 7 and 5 (first part) and papers	
Feb 17	Protein Structure/Function Paper Discussions	Motlagh et al., 2014 (Lahra)	Lipid-protein interactions and methods (Hsia 2015 et al., 2015)

	Membrane proteins		
Feb 22	Protein Structure/Function Paper Discussions	Lu et al., 2019 (Elizabeth) Fantini et al., 2016 (Cam)	
Feb 24	Protein Structure/Function Paper Discussions MIDTERM (handout)	Earl et al., 2018 (Leilani) Walsh et al., 2018 (Lahra)	
March 1	MIDTERM		
March 3	MIDTERM - Due by 4.30pm		
March 7-11	Spring Break- no classes Download Chimera before March 15th's class		
March 15	Chimera/Protein Sequence BLAST	Protein viewing and sequence searching	
March 17	Protein Synthesis	Chapter 8	Protein synthesis, trafficking and targeting
March 22	Trafficking and Targeting	Chapter 8	
March 24	Trafficking and Protein Folding	Chapter 8 & 11	Protein folding
March 29	Protein Folding	Chapter 11 Kweon et al., 2020 (Elizabeth)	
March 31	Paper Discussions: Protein Folding	Daggett and Fersht (2003) (Cam) Mayor et al, 2003 (Leilani)	Final Project handout
April 5	Paper Discussions: Protein Folding & Disease	Smith et al., 2015 (Lahra) Pensalfini et al., 2014 (Elizabeth)	
April 7	Unfolded Protein Response		

April 12	Protein Degradation (proteasome)		
April 14	Paper Discussions: Protein Folding & Disease	Halliday and Mallucci, 2014 (Cam) Kanatsu et al., 2014 (Leilani)	
April 19	Paper Discussions: Protein Folding & Disease	Calafate et al., 2016 (Lahra) Poirier et al., 2019 (Weltzin)	
April 21	Final Project due Final (handout)	Final project presentations	
April 25	Final		
April 29	Final due by 4.30 pm		