Lecture Instructors: Dr. Sean Holleran seanholl@seas.upenn.edu
Dr. Miriam Wattenbarger mwattenb@seas.upenn.edu
Lab Instructor: Dr. Robert Bucki buckirob@mail.med.upenn.edu
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Matthew Lazzara mlazzara@seas.upenn.edu
Blackboard Site: courseweb.library.upenn.edu
EAS022-2013B: SAAST Biotechnology

Format: Lectures 9:00am – Noon (daily)
Lab 1:00pm – 4:00pm (daily)
Group Research Proposal
Journal Club (two days per week)
Guest Speakers
Field Trips

Topics: Prokaryotic and Eukaryotic Cells
Chemistry of Cellular Components
DNA Replication, Transcription and Translation
Proteins and Protein Folding
Recombinant DNA Technology
Drug Delivery
Cell Growth Kinetics
Bioreactors and Fermentation
Protein Separations

Requirements: Two exams on lecture material / journal club / guest speakers
Weekly written report and oral presentation for each team
Two weekly meetings with graduate student mentor
Lab Reports
Lab Exam
Lab Presentation

Grade Distribution: Exams 20% (each exam is 10%)
Journal Club 15% (participation score)
Lab 30%
Research Proposal 35% (3 papers + 3 presentations)
Exams: The exams will cover the content from class lectures, journal club discussions and guest lecture material. The format of each exam will be a mix of multiple choice, true/false, short-answer type questions. Each exam will be a closed book exam.

Exam #1 = Tuesday July 16 (9:00AM)
Exam #2 = Thursday July 25 (9:00AM)

Journal Club: The class will be split into two smaller groups for journal club to facilitate class discussion. An article will be distributed to the class (or posted on the website) at least one day prior to the journal club meeting. The students are expected to read the journal article before class and to be prepared to discuss the article. We will read and discuss four or five articles during the course. The grade is based on class participation.

Lab: Dr. Bucki will direct the afternoon lab with the assistance of the RTAs. The details about the lab, and the lab expectations, will be discussed by Dr. Bucki during the first lab period.

Research Proposal: Students will be divided into teams of three students for the research proposal portion of this course. Each student team will be responsible for developing their proposal idea, submitting three drafts of their written proposal, and giving a status-update presentation at the end of each week (including a final presentation on the last day of the course).

Recent journal articles will be used to develop a proposal for a new set of experiments, device, or technique related to biotechnology. The proposal is not only a literature review of current work, but a proposal for a new project based on the current literature. Each group should develop a novel idea that may be tested. However, there will be no experimental work done on the project during the class.

More detailed information about this portion of the course is available in the separate Research Proposal handout.

Final Comment: Please be aware of ALL of your resources for this course - Dr. Holleran, Dr. Wattenbarger, Dr. Bucki, five RTAs, and eight graduate student mentors. We encourage you to talk with any and all of us if there is anything you would like to be done differently. Let someone know if you are having any problems.