

BCB 444/544 - Assignments and Grading Policies

BCB 444:

- **Reading:** Assigned chapters in the textbook & supplemental materials provided in class or on the course website should be read *prior to lecture* (see Schedule).
- **Take-home & Lab Assignments:** Weekly assignments to assess comprehension of readings, lecture and laboratory will be required.

BCB 544:

- **Reading & Take-home & Lab Assignments:** same as BCB 444
In addition, BCB 544 students will be required to complete:
- **Additional Reading & Discussion Questions** - BCB 544 students will be required to read assigned journal articles & answer discussion questions that emphasize critical evaluation of experiments & results presented, including fundamental concepts, experimental design, and interpretation of results.
- **Team Semester Research Projects** - BCB 544 students will form 3-4 person teams & complete a 4-week research project. A written summary and a group oral presentation on the term project will be required.

Exams: There will be 2 Midterm Exams and a Final Exam. The Final will be cumulative with emphasis on the most recent material and general concepts from earlier material. In addition, there will be Homework Assignments based on material covered in the lectures and laboratory.

Grading:

BCB 444:	200 pts	Midterm Exams = 100 points each
	200	Homework & Laboratory assignments = 200 points
	<u>100</u>	Final Exam
	500 pts	Total for BCB 444
BCB 544:	200 pts	Midterm Exams = 100 points each
	200	Homework & Laboratory assignments
	100	Final Exam
	<u>200</u>	Discussion Questions & Team Research Projects
	700 pts	Total for BCB 544

Homework & Laboratory Assignments

100 pts	Lab Exercises	There are 11 Lab meetings with required Lab Exercises Each is worth 10 points; the lowest score will be dropped
100 pts	Homework	There will be 7 or 8 Homework assignments for both BCB 444 & 544 A total of 110 pts worth of Homework will be assigned (i.e., we will "give" you 10 extra points) The value of these Homework assignments will vary, 3 - 25 pts each

BCB 544 only: Discussion Questions & Team Semester Research Projects

40 pts	Questions	2 additional reading & homework assignments, 20 pts each
160 pts	Team Projects	Each student will receive both a team & individual grade, 80 pts each

Late Submission Policy

Please try to submit your assignments on time. For now, there will be no penalty for returning late assignments within 2 days (i.e., 48 hrs) of due date & time -- or if you have *prior* permission of instructor to submit a late assignment (e.g., you will be traveling for conference, you must take your Prelim Exam, etc.).

Partial credit for assignments turned in > 48 hrs late is at the discretion of the instructors/TAs.

Answers to Labs & Homework & Graded Assignments will be posted & returned according to the following schedule:

Lab Exercises: due by **5 PM on Mon**

- **Answers to Lab Exercises** due on Mon will be posted online by **5 PM on Wed** of the same week
- **Graded Lab Exercises** (submitted on time) will be returned by **1 PM on Thurs** of the same week
- **Grades** will be posted online by **5 PM on Fri** of the same week

Homework: due by **5 PM on Fri**

- **Answers to Homework** due on Fri will be posted online by **11 AM on Mon** of the following week
- **Graded Homework** (submitted on time) will be returned after class at **11 AM on Wed** of the following week
- **Grades** will be posted online by **5 PM on Fri** of that week

Exams: usually **11 AM on Fri**

- **Lab session on Thurs** (day before Exam) will be an **optional Review/Study Session**
- **Answer Key** will be posted online by **5 PM on Fri** (same day as Exam)
- **Graded Exams** will be returned after class at **11 AM on Wed** of the following week
- **Grades** will be posted online by **5 PM on Fri** of that week

Of course, there are extenuating circumstances (illness, death in the family, 5 exams in one week, etc.). If you have a real emergency or a serious problem, please attend to it -- and notify us!