# BIOLOGY 1140L – Biology for Health Sciences Lab

# Fall 2026 – CRN # 84551 - Laboratory Syllabus




Format: Face to Face

Lab: Wednesday

3:00-5:45pm

## Welcome to BIOL 1140L!

This course is meant to cover the overview of topics in biology as well as laboratory techniques important for health science majors and non-majors. *This credit is not applicable toward a biology major or minor.*

## Course Learning Objectives:

1. Students will show their understanding of the scientific method.
2. Students will demonstrate the ability to analyze and interpret experimental data.
3. Students will be able to identify basic cellular structure and anatomy.
4. Students will be able to demonstrate the ability to use basic microscopy.
5. Students will be able to identify, label, and describe the stages of the cell cycle/mitosis.
6. Students will be able to describe the importance, structure, and replication of DNA in cells.

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## Instructor Information:

Instructor: Tori McFail, M.S.

Email: vmcfail@unm.edu

**Office Hours:**

**Location:** Academic Affairs Office (Suite 103), Adjunct Offices

Phone (Academic Affairs Office): 505-925-8600

**Monday:** 12-1pm

**Tuesday (online only):** 12-1pm

https://zoom.us/j/91891064021?pwd=NPM9J6tJoNGpdwLuTHaRFYD2nHtbO2.1

Meeting ID: 918 9106 4021

Passcode: TMOffice

**Wednesday:** 12-1pm

*Note: I can meet at other times, but these hours may take place online via Google Meets or Zoom. If I am in my office, you may also check in with me there. Please email me to let me know if you want to meet on Tuesdays!

## Class Information:

All class information will be found on Canvas. This will be where you will be able to download and print the upcoming week's lab activity. You are responsible for printing the activities out before coming to lab. The syllabus and predicted schedule will be posted there.

### Required Texts:

There is no textbook for this course, but you are expected to read and print lab exercises that are found on the course Canvas page.

### Attendance Policy:

Attendance for this course is **mandatory.** This course requires hands-on interaction. Make-ups are not possible. Students may be dropped after 3 absences. If you are going to be absent, make me aware as soon as possible.

## Success Tips:

1. Print and bring lab exercises to class while being prepared to complete the experiment accurately.
2. Read over the lab experiments before coming to class.
3. Read over exercises plus results to prepare for potential quizzes.
4. Participate in your group. Get to know your lab group.

5. Communicate with me about issues regarding other students or your own absences.

Graded Assignments:

| Assignment | Point Value | Amount | Total |
|---|---|---|---|
| Quiz | 25 | 5* | 100 |
| Exam | 100 | 2 | 200 |
| Participation | 8 | 12 | 96 |
| A+ 100% or higher<br>A 91-99%<br>A- 90% | B+ 88-89%<br>B 81-87%<br>B- 80% | C+ 78-79%<br>C 71-77%<br>C- 70% (Not passing) | D+ 68-69%<br>D 61-67%<br>D- 60%<br>F <60% |

Quizzes*: There will be 5 quizzes given throughout the semester. I will typically give notice of when the next quiz will be. These will cover recent lab activity and may be a mixture of both practical and written elements. The lowest quiz grade will be dropped (meaning 4 quizzes count toward your grade).

Exams: There will be 2 practical exams given throughout the semester. There is a midterm and a final exam. They will be a mixture of both practical and written questions. Study guides will be given for both and will be posted to Canvas. The final is not cumulative.

Participation: Participation is vital to your success in this course. With this, 96 of your points possible in this course will come from your participation. These points are allotted based on the following: regular attendance, participating in lab work, accurately and actively completing lab activities.

## **Laboratory Policies** *READ ME*

These rules are there for everyone's safety. Please follow them every time you come into the lab.

1. No food or drink allowed in the lab at any time.
2. No chewing gum

3. No disruptive behaviors (no horseplay)
4. Come on time and be prepared for the day's activity.
5. Treat lab equipment well (carefully and respectfully)

## Campus Resources:

You can find links for student resources at https://valencia.unm.edu/students/index.html. There are many resources available such as campus life opportunities, mental health resources, academic support, food pantry, campus jobs, financial capability support. Reach out to your advisor, the staff at the resource centers and Academics Affair Office, and I can also assist in finding resources on campus.

## Wellness:

If you are ill, please send me an email as soon as possible. I can work with you to find alternative assignments for course completion and participation. If you do find that you need to stay home due to illness or due to other wellness changes, please use campus resources. To help find those resources, communicate with me, an advisor, or another UNM staff member so that you can get the support you need. **UNM is mask friendly, but is not necessarily required.** If you are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19, please do not come to class.

TimelyCare: Free 24/7 virtual care services (medical, emotional support, health coaching, self-care, basic needs support).

## Title IX:

Both classroom and campus should always be safe places of mutual respect, kindness, and support without the fear of discrimination, harassment, or violence. Should you ever find that you need assistance or have concerns regarding specific incidents that violate this principle, please access resources available on campus. UNM faculty, TAs, and GAs are considered "responsible employees" by the Department of Education, and any disclosure of gender harassment (including sexual violence, sexual misconduct, and sexual harassment) must be reported to the university's Title IX coordinator. For more information on the campus policy regarding sexual misconduct, please see https://policy.unm.edu/university-policies/2000/2740.html.

# Fall 2026 Schedule

*Course Schedule is subject to change

| Week | Date | Lab Exercise | Other Assignment |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 8/19 | Course Introduction/Scientific Method and epidemiology | |
| 2 | 8/2 | Aseptic Method/Data Collection and Graphing | |
| 3 | 9/2 | Biological Molecules | Quiz 1 |
| 4 | 9/9 | No Lab – Labor Day | |
| 5 | 9/16 | Microscopy and Cell Biology | |
| 6 | 9/23 | Diffusion and Osmosis | Quiz 2 |
| 7 | 9/30 | Midterm Exam | |
| 8 | 10/7 | No Lab – Fall Break | |
| 9 | 10/14 | Enzymes | |
| 10 | 10/21 | Cellular Respiration I -Aerobic | Quiz 3 |
| 11 | 10/28 | Cellular Respiration II – Anaerobic | |
| 12 | 11/4 | Genetics I – PCR | Quiz 4 |
| 13 | 11/11 | Genetics II – Electrophoresis | |
| 14 | 11/18 | Mitosis | Quiz 5 |
| 15 | 11/25 | **Review Day** | |
| 16 | 12/2 | Final Practical Exam | |