



The Florida State University
College of Medicine

**Medical Biochemistry
and Genetics**

BMS 6204

Spring 2011

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Instructors

Course Director

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Course Overview

Course Goals

The overall course goal is to provide the foundation for producing graduates who are able to utilize fundamental information about biochemistry and genetics in second year courses, later clerkships, graduate medical education, and clinical practice. Specifically, the course is designed to:

- Enhance medical knowledge & clinical reasoning skills. Students will be able to apply their knowledge of the basic biochemical and genetic mechanisms to common or representative diseases, including the symptoms associated with disease, as demonstrated not only by their performance on course examinations and quizzes, but also in later courses, clerkships and graduate medical education.
- Prepare students to scientifically evaluate disease treatment strategies. Students will be able to identify critical components of biochemistry and genetics that inform treatment decisions, as evidenced by examination and quiz performance. Performance on these evaluations should be at a mastery level which will indicate the future transfer of knowledge necessary not only for current biochemically-based treatments, but also to evaluate new treatments and diagnostic tools as they are developed for clinical use.
- Prepare students to communicate effectively and professionally. Students will collaborate with classmates and apply their knowledge of biochemical and genetic information to solve clinical problems by working professionally and effectively in small groups.

Learning Objectives

The Institutional Learning Objectives relevant for Medical Biochemistry and Genetics relate to the FSU COM competency domains.

Competencies

FSUCOM – Competencies -Course Title BMS 6204		
Competency Domains	Competencies Covered in the Course	Methods of Assessment
Patient Care	X*	Examinations and weekly quizzes
Medical Knowledge	x	Examinations and weekly quizzes, NBME Subject Exam
Practice-based Learning	X*	
Communication Skills	x	Small group facilitator evaluations
Professionalism	x	Small group facilitator evaluations
System-based Practice		
NOTES: *Clinical faculty and physicians with active practices are invited to illustrate how biochemical and genetic information and knowledge are used clinical practice.		

Policies

Americans with Disabilities Act

Candidates for the M.D. degree must be able to fully and promptly perform the essential functions in each of the following categories: Observation, Communication, Motor, Intellectual, and Behavioral/Social. However, it is recognized that degrees of ability vary widely between individuals. Individuals are encouraged to discuss their disabilities with the College of Medicine's [Director of Student Counseling Services](#) and the FSU Student Disability Resource Center to determine whether they might be eligible to receive accommodations needed in order to train and function effectively as a physician. The Florida State University College of Medicine is committed to enabling its

students by any reasonable means or accommodations to complete the course of study leading to the medical degree.

[The Office of Student Counseling Services](#)

Medical Science Research Building
G146

Phone: (850) 645-8256 Fax: (850) 645-9452

This syllabus and other class materials are available in alternative format upon request. For more information about services available to FSU students with disabilities, contact the:

Student Disability Resource Center

97 Woodward Avenue, South

Florida State University

Tallahassee, FL 32306-4167

Voice: (850) 644-9566

TDD: (850) 644-8504

sdrc@admin.fsu.edu

<http://www.fsu.edu/~staffair/dean/StudentDisability>

Academic Honor Code

The Florida State University Academic Honor Policy outlines the University's expectations for the integrity of students' academic work, the procedures for resolving alleged violations of those expectations, and the rights and responsibilities of students and faculty members throughout the process. (Florida State University Academic Honor Policy, found at <http://www.fsu.edu/~dof/honorpolicy.htm>.)

Attendance Policy

The College of Medicine has detailed attendance policies as they relate to each cohort and events that conflict with course schedules. See pages 27-29 of [FSUCOM Student Handbook](#) for details of attendance policy, notice of absences and remediation.

Required Materials

Meisenberg, G. and Simmons, W.H. Principles of Medical Biochemistry. 2nd Edition. Mosby Elsevier, Philadelphia, 2006.

Grading

Assignments and weights

There will be 4 integrated examinations (Physiology, Biochemistry, Doctoring 103). There will be 50 biochemistry questions on each exam. Questions will be one-best-answer LCME Step I examination format. It is anticipated that each test will be worth 50 points, although it is possible that problems with an exam question will alter the total points for a given test.

The NBME Basic Sciences Subject Examination in biochemistry will be administered at the end of the semester. The score for this exam will be normalized using a 50 point scale. Point assignment will be based on both class average and class standard deviation.

There will be 11 quizzes with a maximum value of 5 pts each. Quizzes will be administered in a combined format with the Physiology quiz at 1:00 PM on Fridays. There will be a maximum total of 50 possible points for quizzes (lowest quiz will be dropped).

The final course grade will be based upon the percentage of the total available points obtained from a maximum possible of 300 points. Again, if slight point adjustments are needed, they will be clearly explained and all students will have no doubt as to the mechanism by which their final grade is determined.

Grade	Percentage
A	> 90.0 % correct
B	87.0 – 89.9 % correct
B+	80.0 – 86.9 % correct
C+	77.0 – 79.9 % correct
C	70.0 – 76.9 % correct
D	65.0 – 69.9 % correct
F	< 64.9 % correct