

SYLLABUS

BIOLOGY OF SEX (Biol 10210): Spring 2008

Lecture Schedule; Tues./Thurs. 8:00 - 9:15 am, CNS 115

[Disclaimer: this is not a fixed schedule, it is a forecast of the pace at which we will cover the material.]

<u>Date</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Readings</u>
Jan. 22	Introduction; Perspectives, Nature vs. Nurture	WebCT - week 1
Jan. 24	What is sex? Asexual vs.sexual reproduction, modes of fertilization	
Jan. 29	DNA replication, repair and recombination, mitosis	WebCT - week 2
Jan. 31	Meiosis, the evolution of sex - how, and why?	
Feb. 5	Why sex? Why not? Muller's Ratchet, and the Red Queen Hypothesis	WebCT - week 3
Feb. 7	Inbreeding, genetic recombination, life-history decisions	
Feb. 12	Sex determination, sex ratio	WebCT - week 4
Feb. 14	TEST 1	
Feb. 19	Sexual differentiation, sex differences, and gender	WebCT - week 5
Feb. 21	What <i>is</i> normal? Life history strategy, sexual selection	
Feb. 26	Sex role reversals, male tactics (non-human)	WebCT - week 6
Feb. 28	Male tactics (non-human), sperm competition	
March 4	Male tactics (non-human), thwarting female choice; female tactics	WebCT - week 7
March 6	Female tactics(non-human); manipulating and thwarting males	
March 11	SPRING BREAK!	
March 13	SPRING BREAK!	
March 18	polygyny (harem defense, resource defense, scramble, female choice)	WebCT - week 8
March 20	TEST 2	
March 25	monogamy, polyandry, polygynandry; the human animal	WebCT - week 9
March 27	human evolution, selection, polygenic traits	

April 1	human tactics: attracting potential mates, use of pheromones	WebCT - week 10
April 3	human tactics: assessing potential mates	
April 8	human tactics: thwarting unwanted mates, manipulating others	WebCT - week 11
April 10	human mating systems: primate heritage, marriage, mating systems	
April 15	TEST 3	
April 17	polyandry, polygynandry, monogamy, economics and marriage	WebCT - week 12
April 22	parental care, parental favoritism, siblicide	WebCT - week 13
April 24	infanticide, kin selection, inclusive fitness	
April 29	Sex and society; new technologies develop, but where are we going?	WebCT - week 14
May 1	Summary	

FINAL EXAM: THURS. MAY 8, 10:30 am - 12:00 pm