General Biology and Genetics Labs

For the foreseeable future (academic year 2021-22), Biology will not provide separate labs to accompany General Biology 1, 2 or Genetics. Instead, we will offer a 3-credit class that provides the equivalent learning outcomes in a single semester. This is the best solution we could come up with to provide a quality in-person lab experience for our students given the pandemic.

To enroll in this course, students will register for two separate, but co-requisite classes. Both must be taken together as they are 100% integrated. Thus, students enroll in one section of BIO 321 (Genetics lab—1 credit) and one section of BIO 393 (Biological Inquiry-2 credits). The section numbers of these courses are aligned. So, if you enroll in BIO 321-03 you should also enroll in BIO 393-03. We will offer at least four sections of this class in Fall 2021. The classes will meet from 12:30-3:20 on either M & Th or T & F.

In addition, to enroll, a student must have already completed BIO 320 (Genetics) or be co-enrolled in BIO 320. We recognize that some students may not intend to take Genetics here. If this is the case, please have the student email me and I will discuss their situation and provide permission to enroll in the lab course without this co-requisite if that is appropriate. These requests will be handled on a case-by-case basis.

We will also offer many sections in the Spring 2022.

I suggest the following guidelines for enrolling in bio courses:

If you are not yet in Gen Bio 1, but have an MPL =4 or more, then you should take BIO 201 in Fall 2021. If you do not have MPL = 4, you should take appropriate math course to achieve this MPL so that you can enroll in BIO 201 asap.

If you are currently taking Gen Bio 1, then you should enroll in BIO 202 in Fall 2021. You will take the lab course in a subsequent semester.

If you are currently taking Gen Bio 2, then you should enroll in BIO 320 in Fall 2021 and potentially take the BIO 321 + BIO 393 lab course. Note—we do not have enough seats in Fall 2021 for every student. So, if you don’t get a seat in Fall 2021 you can take it in Spring 2022.

If you took BIO 320 in Fall 2020, but aren’t taking BIO 321 + BIO 393 this semester, you should enroll in BIO 321 + BIO 393 in Fall 2021.

If you have questions, please email me on waldoj@newpaltz.edu