

## Bi214 General Biology IV: Mechanisms: Fall 2021

This course is about how stuff works: the mechanisms by which biological processes, practiced by all cellular life, operate. Through a combination of lectures, problem solving, and laboratory exercises we will explore amino acid chemistry, the structures and functions of proteins, the genetics of biochemical pathways, the structure and regulation of prokaryotic and eukaryotic genes, and the genetics and molecular biology underlying development. Bi211 and Bi212, or the equivalent, and a full year of General Chemistry are prerequisites.

### Contact Info

#### Instructors

Dr. Connolly (Lecture)  
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#### GEs

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#### BTUs/BULAs

Sam Craig (BTU)  
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Henry Hochstatter (BTU)  
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Tyler Ramos (BTU/  
BULA)  
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Dana Zaidan (BULA)  
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### Lecture: (Remote- Follow Class Modules)

Conducted by Dr. Amy Connolly (she/her)

The lecture portion will be held asynchronously, meaning there is no required time for you to be present in class or on zoom. You will have modules that correspond to a Mon/Wed morning class (morning because our first labs of the week begin Wednesday at 12:00). **Module quizzes are due at 11:59 PM on these Mondays and Wednesday. Modules for the following week will be released each week by Wednesday at noon.** Please see schedule on the last page. Modules will consist of the learning objectives, video lectures, practice problems, suggested problems sets, suggested reading assignments, and a for-credit quiz. **You are allowed to work with your peers on quizzes, but you should still understand why you are choosing the answer you are so as to be prepared for exam day.**

### Labs (In-person Wednesday/Thursdays in Klamath 13)

Conducted by Dr. Laurel Pfeifer-Meister (she/her)

We consider the labs to be an integral part of the course. We have designed active learning experiences that will broaden your understanding of the mechanisms you will be hearing about in lecture. There will be labs dealing with the properties of amino acids, protein and DNA structure/function relationships, gene regulation, genetic complementation, and cooperativity using Hemoglobin as a model (see schedule). Most labs cannot be made up because they involve special material or equipment. If you communicate with us promptly (**within 24 hours**) that you are unable to attend (please do not come to lab sick), we may be able to have you join a different section or be able to offer an alternative assignment. This is only an option if arrangements are made in advance and permission is granted from your instructors (please include your GE(s) and Dr. Pfeifer-Meister on all correspondence).

Labs begin week two (10/6 or 10/7). A pdf of the lab handout for the week will be posted to Canvas at least one week in advance. Among the pages are a series of preparation questions meant to prime you for the upcoming lab. These questions will be mirrored in an associated Canvas quiz that will be due **Wednesday at noon**. Beginning week 3 (after you've completed your first lab), these **pre-lab assignments** will also contain some follow-up questions from the previous week's lab to puzzle through (12% of your course grade). You are welcome to ask for help during our office hours and work with your

peers on this assignment. As we are providing the pdf's (and not requiring you to buy a lab manual at the bookstore), you must come to lab with a printed version of this pdf to fill out during our time together (printers are available to use with your Duck ID in all residence halls and the UO libraries). These **lab reports** will usually be turned in at the end of each lab (worth 12% of your course grade). Associated with your lab grade is an attendance, courtesy, and active **participation** component (6%). If you attend lab regularly (and on time), actively participate, and clean-up after yourself you should expect full credit. If you need to miss lab due to illness, there will be no participation penalty as long as you've communicated within the 24 hour timeframe and arranged the alternative assignment. *Note: There is one lab that will require you to return to the lab two times during week six, see schedule.*

Lab Times	GE(s)	BULA
Wednesday 12:00-2:50 PM	Kendall Smith Tim Wheeler	Tyler Ramos
Wednesday 3:00-5:50 PM	Kendall Smith	Dana Zaidan
Thursday 9:00-11:50 AM	Jose Sanchez-Borbo Tim Wheeler	
Thursday 12:00-2:50 PM	Jose Sanchez-Borbo Michael Shavlik	Simon Oh
Thursday 4:00-6:50 PM	Michael Shavlik	Rose Hoang

## Exams

### **Time and Place:**

There will be three exams in this class (two midterms and a final). They will be proctored by UO Exam Testing Center. Exams will be taken on campus, in **Room 19 at the Knight Library**.

Exam 1 Window: Monday Oct 25- Thursday Oct 28

Exam 2 Window: Monday Nov 15- Thursday Nov 18

Final Exam Window: Monday Dec 6- Wednesday Dec 8

### **Registration Procedure with UO Testing Services:**

You will need to register for a time to take the exam at UO Testing Services, an in-person facility that proctors exams for online and remote classes. Please register here:

<https://online.uoregon.edu/examcenter>

A **reservation is required** to take the exam. Plan ahead, as **slots are limited and often fill** during the busiest times of the term. Slots are often not available if you are looking for one within the next day or two. You can sign up for a slot up to 2 weeks in advance.

### **Exam Requirements with UO Testing Services:**

1. Schedule an appointment (see above)
2. Bring your photo ID, DuckID credentials, and DUO Authentication Device

You may not begin an exam without proper ID. Exams are delivered through Canvas, so you must know your login credentials (i.e. your UOregon email and password) and be able to acquire a **DUO Authentication code**. Exams cannot be administered without DuckID credentials and DUO Authentication.

3. Arrive 10 minutes before your exam appointment to Knight Library, Room 19.

Exams may not begin later than 10 minutes after your scheduled appointment. If you arrive more than 10 minutes after your exam's scheduled start time, you may forfeit your appointment and need to create a new one.

### **Off Campus Testing:**

UO Testing Center can sometimes accommodate off-campus testing if you are out of town and not in the Eugene/Springfield area. If an emergency arises that takes you out of town, you are welcome to arrange off-campus testing with UO Testing Service (see contact below). Sometimes the outside service charges a fee. Please work with them (see contact below) if something comes up.

### **Questions?**

For questions regarding registration, location, exam environment, etc, please direct them here:

UO Testing Center  
Email: [proctor@uoregon.edu](mailto:proctor@uoregon.edu)  
Office Location: Room 31 Knight Library  
Testing Location: Room 19 of Knight Library  
UO Online Call Center Phone: 541-346-1900  
Online Exam Manager Phone: 541-346-0324

### **Exam Policies:**

- Exam do-not-discuss Policy:  
Since the exams are not being held synchronously, there will be a period of time where some students will have taken the exam before others. Out of fairness for the students who take the exam early, we will have a "no-discuss policy" during that window of time. We ask that all of your questions about the exam are asked prior to the exam window opening. Please respect this policy in office hours and do not ask us questions about material covered on the exam. We also ask that you uphold a code of honesty, if you are an earlier exam taker, and not share information about the test with those who haven't taken it yet.
- Materials:  
Exams will be closed book, closed notes. Because the exam dates are flexible (subject to the requirement that they meet the deadline), it is not possible for you to obtain a copy of an exam after completing the exam or course.
- Time Conflict:  
Hopefully since there's an exam window, as opposed to an exact time, students will be able to find a time that works with their schedule and other academic obligations. But if some unforeseen event comes up, you should first try to rearrange your exam time within the exam window through UO Testing Center (see contact above).
- Make up exams after the Exam Window:  
Academic conflicts and cases of emergency may be considered. But all other requests are subject to the following policy: If Exam 1 or Exam 2 is missed, it will be dropped and the other exam will be counted (as per the grading scheme outlined in the syllabus). If it's the final exam, either a 0 will be given or a flat penalty of 15%.

### **Office Hours/Help Sessions**

Office Hours	Instructor/TA	Material Covered	Location
Monday 11:30-12:30	Sam Craig	Lecture	Zoom
Monday 1:00-2:00	Kendall Smith	Lab/Lecture	Zoom

Monday 2:00-3:00	Henry Hochstatter	Lecture	B009 Science Library
Monday 3:00-4:00	Henry Hochstatter	Lecture	B009 Science Library
Tuesday 10:00-11:00	Dr. Connolly	Lecture	Zoom
Tuesday 2:00-3:00	Tim Wheeler	Lab/Lecture	Klamath 13
Tuesday 3:00-4:00	Simon Oh	Lab/Lecture	B009 Science Library
Tuesday 5:00-6:00	Dana Zaidan	Lab/Lecture	Zoom
Wednesday 11:00-12:00	Michael Shavlik	Lab/Lecture	Klamath 13
Wednesday 3:00-4:00	Tyler Ramos	Lab/Lecture	B009 Science Library
Wednesday: 6:00-7:00	Rose Hoang	Lab/Lecture	Zoom
Thursday 10:00-11:00	Dr. Connolly	Lecture	Zoom
Thursday 3:00-4:00	Jose Sanchez-Borbon	Lab/Lecture	Klamath 13
Friday 11:30-12:30	Sam Craig	Lecture	Zoom
Friday 3:00-4:00	Dr. Pfeifer-Meister*	Lab	Klamath 33

\*or by appointment

**Lecture: Module quizzes, practice problems, lecture videos**

**Lab: pre-lab/post-lab quiz, lab reports**

### **Communication Guidelines to Help Streamline Getting You Help**

Urgent or time-sensitive questions should be sent to both Dr. Connolly and Dr. Pfeifer-Meister, otherwise please follow the instructions below.

This is a large class, so we need some organization around who students should contact for help.

#### **I. Lecture Content:**

If you have questions about module quizzes, or problem sets, and content in general, please do the following in the following order.

1. Come to office hours or use the discussion board to ask a question. (The BTUs will be monitoring it frequently)
2. Email your GE
3. Email Dr. Connolly
4. Note: There will be one or two weeks during the term (probably mid October) where any questions you'd otherwise direct to Dr. Connolly, you will need to direct to Dr. Pfeifer-Meister as Dr. Connolly will be having a baby around then. You will receive an announcement from one of us when that time arrives.

While you are always welcome to contact me (Dr. Connolly) with content questions, I ask you please follow the above rules. It not only will be helpful for me, your question will probably be answered faster! Besides we have some amazing BTUs and GEs, many of whom are veteran teachers for this class and can help you out!

#### **II. Lab Content:**

For lab questions specifically, please do the following in the following order

1. Questions about lab should first be resolved in lab during your required lab time.
2. After lab is over, any remaining questions can be asked on the discussion board, office hours (see lab office hours on the schedule) or should be directed to either your GE or your BULA.
3. Email Dr. Pfeifer-Meister

Finally, we will also communicate with you through our Canvas site. Announcements can be automatically forwarded to your UO email, and can even reach you by text. Check and adjust your settings under Account > Notifications.

#### **III. Grading Questions**

A. **Module quiz** grading questions, errors, and requests should be sent to Dr. Connolly, within one week.

B. Questions about **lab report grades** should be directed to your GE with Dr. Pfeifer-Meister cc'd. Requests for regrades on problems that required hand grading must occur within one week of receiving the grade.

C. Questions about **pre-lab quizzes** should be sent to Dr. Pfeifer-Meister within one week.

D. Questions about **exam grades** should be sent directly to Dr. Connolly. Requests for regrades on problems that required hand grading must occur within one week of receiving the grade.

### Grading Breakdown

Content	Method 1 (What Canvas Shows)	Method 2	Method 3
16 Module Quizzes (one a day except exam days) with lowest two dropped.	14%	14%	14%
Exam 1	17	Dropped	26
Exam 2	17	26	Dropped
Final	22	30	30
Lab Attendance, Courtesy, & Participation	6%	6%	6%
Pre-Lab & Post-Lab (lowest score dropped)	12%	12%	12%
Lab Reports (lowest score dropped)	12%	12%	12%

Canvas will be set up to follow Method 1 grading, but at the end of the term we will calculate everyone's grade using both methods, and select the numerical score that is higher to make a grade determination. These two methods are in place, so that if you don't do as well on one exam you have a chance to recover at the final.

### Grading Scale

A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D	F
100 and above	94-99	90-93	87-89	84-86	80-83	77-79	74-76	70-73	60- 69	59 and below

Notes on Assigning Grades:

- The above grading scale will be used to determine your grades. we may draw any one of these cut offs lower than what's outlined above. We will never draw the cut offs higher than what's above.
- The exact cut offs for grades that are on the cusp (93.1-93.9) will vary by year. It depends upon where there are natural breaks in the grade line up. These cut offs won't be made public.
- A + grades are special and are rewarded in cases of outstanding performance. Like the first bullet point mentions, this cut off could be lower than stated above, but this will depend upon the particulars of the class and is up to instructor discretion.
- **At the end of the term do not ask for your grade to be bumped or for extra assignments or extra credit.** I endeavor to make the class fair for everyone, and cannot grant these kinds of requests.

Philosophy on Grading Structure:

- Module quizzes and lab assignments are good places for you to earn a good portion of the points. These are places where you can come and talk to instructors in office hours to make sure you are doing well and understand what you are doing prior to submission. These assignments typically have a very high average. Besides the fact that these assignments are valuable to your education, they serve as important grade boosters since exams are typically harder.
- Exams are an important tool for instructors to gauge how well a student understands the material because 1) you must work them on your own and 2) you must show that you can grapple with the material in a timely manner that uses deep thinking.
- After the class has taken an exam, Dr. Connolly will take the time to evaluate the exam as a whole and look through and see if there were any problems that a number of people missed, and see if we can award some kind of partial or full credit there.

- If an average of at least 70% on the exam is not achieved by the class as a whole, the exam will be curved to at least 70%. Hopefully, you'll all work together and achieve scores as a class higher than that!

## **Grading Policies:**

**Module Quizzes:** Assignments submitted any time after 11:59 PM of the day its due will **receive a flat 15% deduction** off the total points. Late policies are strict because answers to Canvas quizzes are made available at 12:00 AM the following day. There will be no module extensions. As much as I would like to help you out as situations arise, we are not offering extensions (unless a serious emergency arises) because a) the answers become available that night and b) with such a large class size, these requests become hard to manage. So don't worry too much if you're having a bad day, because 1) you can turn it in late for a **15% deduction** and 2) your **lowest two scores are dropped**. You have **one week to turn in a late module quiz before it becomes a 0**.

**Exams:** Requests to examine grading errors or to regrade quizzes and reports must be sent to your Dr. Connolly **within one week** of your receiving the graded assignment for consideration, and must be accompanied by a written explanation.

**Lab Assignments:** All pre-lab assignments will be due Wednesday at noon on Canvas. Assignments submitted any time after 12:00 PM (noon) of the day its due will **receive a flat 15% deduction** off the total points. After one week this will become a 0. Lab reports turned in late will be **marked half off**. **After one week, there will be no late lab reports accepted**. No lab reports or pre-lab assignments will be dropped.

## **Accommodations for students with disabilities:**

If you have a documented disability and anticipate needing accommodations in this course, please provide Dr. Connolly, Dr. Pfeifer-Meister, and your GE with a notification letter from the Accessible Education Center stating your approved accommodations. If you have flexibility on attendance or due dates, it is imperative that you reach out to your GE early on to discuss an arrangement with how you are going to handle missed days or late assignments.

## **Required Supplies**

- Scientific Calculator
- There is no book this term. Instead we are providing links to open access (Free!) textbooks and other material where it's available in the modules to support your understanding. You can find these in the modules as "Supplemental reading." So if you want to read/learn about the same information from a different source, I'd encourage you to go check these pages out.
- We are providing pdf's of each lab exercise. You must print these out prior to coming to lab.

## **Class Conduct and Academic Honesty**

With this lecture portion of the class being conducted remotely, the time is more important than ever that you hold yourself to high ethical standards. All work submitted in this course must be your own. Instances of suspected cheating or plagiarism on exams, quizzes, and reports will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards. Your instructors take these cases seriously. Academic misconduct could result in a failing mark for quiz, exam, report or for the course. For definitions of violations, a description of the hearing process, and a summary of penalties for findings of academic misconduct, go to <http://policies.uoregon.edu/vol-3-administration-student-affairs/ch-1-conduct/student-conduct-code>

## **Resources for Remote Learning**

Below you can find a variety of resources that may help you navigate the remote set up we will be in this Fall.

<https://remote.uoregon.edu/student>

<https://service.uoregon.edu/TDCClient/2030/Portal/Home/>

## **Mental Health Resources**

These past two years have presented a lot of new challenges. If you need someone to talk to or are struggling, there are mental health resources available to you as a UO student. Please follow the links here.

<https://counseling.uoregon.edu>

<https://counseling.uoregon.edu/mental-health-resources>

## **Academic Disruption**

In the event of a campus emergency that disrupts academic activities, course requirements, deadlines, and grading percentages are subject to change. Information about changes in this course will be communicated as soon as possible by email, and on Canvas. If we are not able to meet face-to-face for labs, students should immediately log onto Canvas and read any announcements and/or access alternative assignments. Students are also expected to continue coursework as outlined in this syllabus or other instructions on Canvas.

In the event that a lab instructor of this course has to quarantine, the lab may be taught online during that time.

## **COVID Containment Plan for Classes**

As the University of Oregon returns to in-person instruction, the key to keeping our community healthy and safe involves prevention, containment, and support. Here is information critical to how the UO is responding to COVID-19.

- Prevention: To prevent or reduce the spread of COVID-19 in classrooms and on campus, all students and employees must:
  - Comply with [vaccination policy](#)
  - [Wear face coverings](#) in all indoor spaces on UO campus
  - Complete weekly [testing](#) if not fully vaccinated or exempted
  - [Wash hands](#) frequently and practice social distancing when possible
  - Complete daily [self-checks](#)
  - Stay home/do not come to campus if feeling [symptomatic](#)
  - Complete the UO [COVID-19 case and contact reporting form](#) if you test positive or have been in close contact with a confirmed or presumptive case.
- Containment: If a student in class tests positive for COVID-19, all relevant classes will be notified via an email by the Corona Corps Care Team with instructions for students and staff based on their vaccination status. Specifically:
  - Vaccinated and Asymptomatic students: Quarantine not required, but daily self-monitoring before coming on campus is advised; sign up for testing through MAP 3-5 days after exposure if advised you are a contact.”
  - Unvaccinated or partially vaccinated students: 14-day quarantine advised – do not come to class – and sign up for testing 3-5 days after notification through [MAP](#), if asymptomatic, or through University Health Services (541-346-2770) or your primary care provider, if symptomatic.
  - Symptomatic students: stay home (do not come to class/campus), complete the online [case and contact form](#), and contact University Health Services (541-346-2770) or your primary care provider to arrange for immediate COVID-19 testing.

Students identified as a close contacts of a positive case will be contacted by the Corona Corps Care Team (541-346-2292).

- Support: The following resources are available to you as a student.
  - [University Health Services](#) or call (541) 346-2770
  - [University Counseling Center](#) or call (541) 346-3277 or (541) 346-3227 (after hrs.)
  - [MAP Covid-19 Testing](#)
  - [Corona Corps](#) or call (541) 346-2292
  - [Academic Advising](#) or call (541) 346-3211
  - [Dean of Students](#) or call (541)-346-3216

## Good Classroom (Lab) Citizenship

- Wear your mask and make sure it fits you well
- Stay home if you're sick and contact your instructors immediately
- Get to know your neighbors in class, and let them know if you test positive
- Get tested regularly
- Watch for signs and symptoms with the daily symptom self-check
- Wash your hands frequently or use hand sanitizer
- Complete the UO COVID-19 [case and contact reporting form](#) if you test positive or are a close contact of someone who tests positive.

The topics below are open to change, but the exam times and lab and module due dates will stay constant unless some unforeseen event arises.

### Class Schedule

Week	Date	Topic
		<b>All module quizzes are due at the end of the day at 11:59 PM</b>
1 Amino Acid Introduction and Acid Base Chemistry	Sept 27	Module 1-1: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduction</li> <li>• Amino Acid Structure, Polarity and Solubility</li> </ul> <b>First day only: Extended due date for quiz to Tuesday at 11:59 PM</b>
	Sept 29	Module 1-2: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Acid-Base Chemistry</li> </ul>
	Sept 29, 30	<b>No Lab</b>
2 Amino Acid and Protein Chemistry	Oct 4	Module 2-1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Acid-Base Properties of Diprotic Amino Acids</li> <li>• Acid-Base Properties of Triprotic Amino Acids</li> </ul>
	Oct 6	Module 2-1: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Polypeptide Properties</li> </ul>
	Oct 6, 7	<b>Lab 1: Amino Acids</b> Due: Pre-lab due at noon 10/6; report due at the beginning of your next lab (10/13 or 10/14)
3 Protein Structure	Oct 11	Module 3-1: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Primary Structure</li> <li>• Secondary Structure (Alpha Helices and Beta-Pleated Sheets)</li> <li>• Secondary Structure Continued</li> <li>• Tertiary and Quaternary Structure</li> </ul>
	Oct 13	Module 4-1: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tertiary and Quaternary Structure</li> </ul>
	Oct 13, 14	<b>Lab 2 Protein Structure</b> Due: Pre-lab + Post-lab due noon 10/13; report due 10/20 or 10/21
4 Hemoglobin	Oct 18	Module 4-1: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hemoglobin and Myoglobin: structure/function, binding curve and cooperativity;</li> <li>• Hemoglobin cooperativity, properties of heme</li> </ul>
	Oct 20	Module 4-2: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hemoglobin Allostery</li> </ul>
	Oct 20, 21	<b>Lab 3 Hemoglobin Cooperativity &amp; Allostery</b> Due: Pre-lab + Post-lab due noon 10/20; report due 10/27 or 10/28
	TBD	<b>Review Session</b>
5	Oct 25	No Module Due

DNA Structure	<u>Exam Window</u> Oct-25-28	<b>Exam 1:</b> Content: Module 1-1 (Sept 27) through Module 4-1 (Oct 18) including Lab 1 and Lab 2 Note: This exam will only cover the first portion of the Hemoglobin content. <b>*Bring Calculator</b>
	Oct 27	Module 5-1: • DNA Structure, Synthesis, Mutations
	Oct 27, 28	<b>Lab 4 DNA structure</b> Due: Pre-lab + Post-lab due noon 10/27; report due 11/3 or 11/4
6 Metabolic Pathways and Complementation Tests	Nov 1	Module 6-1: • Metabolic Pathways • Conditional Mutants
	Nov 3	Module 6-2: • Complementation Tests
	Nov 3, 4	<b>Lab 5 Complementations</b> <i>During this lab you will be required to return to the lab twice. For Wednesday labs, you will sign up for times to return Thurs. and Fri. For Thursday labs, you will sign up for times to return Friday and Monday.</i> Due: Pre-lab + Post lab quiz due noon 11/3; report due 11/17 or 11/18
7 Complementation Tests Continued  Transcription in Prokaryotes	Nov 8	Module 7-1: • Complementation Tests
	Nov 10	Module 7-2: • Transcription in Prokaryotes
	Nov 10, 11	<b>No Lab: Veteran's Day</b>
	TBD	<b>Review Session</b>
8 Lac Operon	Nov 15	No Module Due
	<u>Exam Window</u> Nov 15-18	<b>Exam 2:</b> Content: Module 4-2 (Oct 20) through Module 7-2 (Nov 10) Labs 3, 4 and 5
	Nov 17	Module 8-1: • Lac Operon: Negative
	Nov 17,18	<b>Lab 6: Gene Regulation, Focus on Lac Operon</b> Due: Pre-lab + Post-lab quiz due noon 11/17; report due 12/1 or 12/2
9 Lac Operon  Asymmetry in Yeast and Development	Nov 22	Module 9-1: • Lac Operon: Positive
	Nov 24	Module 9-2: • Asymmetry in Yeast and Development Part I
	Nov 24, 25	<b>No Lab: Thanksgiving Break</b>
10 Asymmetry in Yeast and Development Continued	Dec 1	Module 10-1: • Asymmetry in Yeast and Development Part II
	Dec 3	Final Exam Review
	Dec 1,2	<b>Lab 7: Lac Operon Lab</b> Due: Pre-lab and Post-lab quiz due noon 12/1; lab report due during lab
	TBD	<b>Review Session</b>
Finals Week	<u>Exam Window</u> Dec 6-9	<b>Final Exam</b> Content: Comprehensive, with emphasis on Module 8-1 (Nov 17) through Module 10-1 (Dec1); Labs 6 and 7) <b>*Bring Calculator</b>