Biology 2021: Principles of Cell Science is an “honors” section* of Biology 2020. Biol 2021 is available to any interested student with instructor’s permission.

Instructor:  
Dr. David L. Gard  
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Enrollment: Biology 2021 is targeted at students who wish to learn and/or discuss the experimental evidence underlying our understanding of cell structure and function. To facilitate student/instructor interaction, registration is limited to 35 students and requires instructor permission. Contact Dr. Gard for further information.

Lectures: Tu/Th from 10:45 AM - 12:05 PM in ASB 220 (held concurrently with Biol 2020). Lectures explore the structure, function, and evolution of living cells, including prokaryotes (bacteria) and eukaryotes (plants, animals and fungi).

Biol 2021 discussion section: Students in Biol 2021: Principles of Cell Science are required to attend a weekly discussion with Dr. Gard, to be held Wednesdays 10:45-11:35 in ASB 230 (Aline Skaggs Biology). Discussions will focus on the experimental evidence underlying our understanding of cell structure and function and/or the impact of recent advances in cell biology on society. Biol 2021 discussions will include material not presented in lecture. For this reason, attendance is mandatory (note that Biol 2021 is 4 credits) and will be recorded. Students will be allowed one (1) excused absence. Unexcused absences will detract from the assigned grade.

In addition to the required discussion, Biol 2021 students are encouraged to attend one or more of the TA-led discussion sections listed in the syllabus for Biol 2020. As with 2020, students may “earn” up to 10 points (max 1 pt/wk) for attending and signing in at 2020 discussion (attendance points are added to your score before determination of the final curve).

Text and reading: Students will be responsible for reading assigned in Alberts et al., Essential Cell Biology 2 (Garland Publishing) (see syllabus for Biol 2020). Additional supplementary readings will be provided in class or on-line.

Problem sets: Problems and questions for thought are included with each chapter of ECB2. Answers to problems from ECB2 are provided at the back of the book. Supplementary study questions are available in the BioSAC 2020 study guide and are available on-line. Supplementary study questions will not be turned in or graded.

On-line resources: Students in Biol 2021 have access to the on-line resources of the Biol 2020 website: http://courses.biology.utah.edu/gard/cell/

Exams: Biol 2021 students are required to take all four of the exams scheduled for Biol 2020 (three mid-terms are tentatively scheduled for Thursday 20 Sept, Tuesday 23 October, and Thursday 15 Nov and a 2 hr final exam is scheduled for Monday 10 December at 10:30 AM. -12:30 PM, see Biol 2020 syllabus for more information).

Grading policy: Despite sharing exams, grade curves for Biol 2020 and Biol 2021 will determined separately. Grades in Biol 2021 will be based on the four exams (100 points each), a subjective evaluation of participation in discussion, attendance at 2021 discussions (up to 10 points may be subtracted for each unexcused absence), quizzes (a max of 10 points, see 2020 syllabus), and attendance at 2020 discussions (a max of 10 points, see 2020 syllabus). In the past three years, the median grade for Biol 2021 has been a B+/A-.
Incompletes: University policy allows assignment of a grade of incomplete (I) if 20% or less of the course work remains unfinished. Since each individual exam counts as 25% of the final grade, I am administratively prohibited from assigning the grade of "incomplete (I)."

Audits: I will not approve requests to audit (V) this course submitted after Friday 2 September.

Cr/NC option: Registering under the Cr/NC option does not require instructor approval. However, University policies may require specific levels of achievement for this grade to be administratively assigned.

Content accommodations: The content of this course fulfills legitimate pedagogical goals. I do NOT grant content accommodations. Students are responsible for all material presented in the lectures, problem sets, and required reading. Attendance accommodations are made according to University policies and procedures (chapter VII section 15; see above): "Students absent from class to participate in officially sanctioned University activities (e.g., band, debate, student government, intercollegiate athletics) or religious obligations, or with instructor's approval, shall be permitted to make up both assignments and examinations..."

Drops: The drop policy of this class is consistent with that of the University: the last day to drop (delete) classes is Friday 2 September. Classes dropped before this date will not appear on transcripts. The last day to withdraw from classes is Friday 21 October. A "W" will appear on transcripts. Instructor approval is not required for withdrawal. After 21 Oct, withdrawal requires approval of the Dean of Science, which is only granted for compelling non-academic reasons.

However, in the past, the Registrar has allowed students to change their registration from Biol 2021 to Biol 2020 as late as the last week of the semester. Note that the additional hour of tuition is not refunded!

A.D.A.: The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services, and activities for people with disabilities. If you will need accommodations in this class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the instructor and to the Center for Disability Services, 162 Olpin Union Building, 581-5020 (V/TDD) to make arrangements for these accommodations. All written information in this course can be made available in alternative format with prior notification.