

**Chemistry 372 - Biochemistry Laboratory I**  
**Fall 2021 Syllabus**  
**Loyola University Chicago**



**Instructor:** Agnes Pecak ( [aorlof@luc.edu](mailto:aorlof@luc.edu) )

**Teaching Assistants:** Niu, Yuanpu ( [yniu2@luc.edu](mailto:yniu2@luc.edu) ) &

Martinez-Ramirez, Gaby ( [gmartinezramirez@luc.edu](mailto:gmartinezramirez@luc.edu) )

**Laboratory sections:** Wednesdays 8:00 AM- 12:00 PM or 1:30 PM- 5:30 PM  
Flanner Hall - Room 2 or 016

**Online Discussion sections:** Tuesdays 8:00 AM -8:50 AM Room 105 and 11:30 AM -  
12:20 PM via ZOOM

**Prerequisite:** C- or better in CHEM 212, 214, 370, and 222 or 226.

**Description and Objectives:** This laboratory course is designed to simulate a research experience and to teach modern techniques utilized in a biochemistry laboratory, particularly the ones related to protein expression and purification. The course theme involves a comparative investigation of the enzyme ADP-glucose pyrophosphorylase and its mutant from a bacterial source. Each two-student team will be working on 2 forms (wild type and a mutant) of a recombinant ADP-glucose pyrophosphorylase.

**The objectives of the course are to:**

1. Learn and perform the techniques of mutagenesis, a recombinant protein expression and purification
2. Characterize the protein that has been previously constructed with a tag for rapid purification.
3. Learn about how to improve on methodology published, literature search and presentation.

ADP-glucose pyrophosphorylase is an enzyme well studied, in which its purification has been described for a long time. Here in the course, we will try to improve it with modern techniques. There is a certain but moderate risk of facing challenges. The instructor and teaching assistants have a vast experience with the system to guide the students, but ultimately, we will experience the enthusiasm of research. That is finding new things. Some of the pedagogical goals are inspired by Kuhn, M.L., Figueroa, C.M., Aleanzi, M., Olsen, K.W., Iglesias, A.A. and Ballicora, M.A. (2010) "Bi-national and interdisciplinary course in enzyme engineering" *Biochem.Mol.Biol.Educ.* 38:370-379.  
[\[http://dx.doi.org/10.1002/bmb.20438\]](http://dx.doi.org/10.1002/bmb.20438)

*... "that students work on real scientific problems during the laboratory sessions rather than performing a series of well-established experiments. While this may lead to unexpected difficulties, it is extremely advantageous for the student to learn how to approach a problem in an actual research environment"*

The laboratory is an open-architecture environment. Student teams are expected to perform experiments during their normally scheduled laboratory session time; however, there will be opportunities to repeat certain procedures or experiments but not outside of their laboratory section.

A weekly 50-minute discussion section will be used for the discussion of theory, procedures, results, and conclusions. The discussion will be conducted as an open forum of questions and answers between students and the instructor. There will also be small group assignments. Quizzes will be assigned outside of class. With the instructor's help, the students will compare the methods that they have found in the original literature and determine which methods are best suited for the lab. Upon the completion of the course, the students should draw conclusions and insights about the structure-function relationships of this enzyme.

### **Required Materials:**

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- Safety glasses: No student will be permitted to conduct research without an eye protection; If you need to wear the regular glasses then you will need to put the goggles on top of your glasses.
- Face Mask. Each student will have to come with a mask on and keep it on throughout the lab
- Gloves: they will be provided in lab, free of charge
- Lab coat is required. You can purchase one at Loyola Bookstore
- Composition Notebook
- Laptop with high-speed internet connection
- Appropriate clothing must be worn (see Safety portion below)
- CamScanner or Genius Scan phone app, for iPhone or Android. This is a free app that will convert a phone picture to a PDF file. It may be necessary to take pictures of your Composition notebook pages and upload them for grading as a PDF file.

### **Attendance/Participation:**

Participation is mandatory for ALL labs. Every student is expected to come to every lab.

### **Fall 2021 Masking Requirement**

**It is Departmental policy that, even in the event the University relaxes its universal requirement for indoor mask-wearing during the Fall 2021 semester, it will remain a principle of this class-section that, out of respect for the health of housemates and others in regular contact with members of our community, in this class we properly wear masks at all times (e.g. over nose and mouth).**

### **Safety:**

Laboratory safety is everyone's responsibility. By registering in this course you agree to abide by all of the safety precautions, information and rules provided to you in lab.

**Appropriate clothing must be worn** that minimizes potential chemical contact with your skin. Shoes that adequately cover the entire foot are required. Sandals, open-toes shoes, perforated shoes, open-backed shoes are not acceptable. No skin can be exposed on your feet or legs, so clothing that covers and protects your body from the waist down (including your ankles) should be worn.

**Laboratory Experiments:** All proposed experimental procedures will be discussed and approved by the lab instructor.

*Lab 1: Check in, Site- Directed Mutagenesis Part I and Media preparation*

*Lab 2: Site Directed Mutagenesis Part II*

*Lab 3: Mutated DNA purification & digestion. Concentrating some of mutated DNA sample and send it to sequence.*

*Lab 4: Agarose Gel Electrophoresis*

*Lab 5: Plasmid Transformation*

*Lab 6: Protein Expression*

*Lab 7 & 8: Protein Purification & Kinetics Prep*

*Lab 9: SDS-PAGE (sodium dodecyl sulfate–polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis)*

*Lab 10-13: Malachite Green Assay (Kinetics)*

**Teaching Assistants (TAs):** In order to increase the amount of individual assistance you receive in lab, Teaching Assistants will participate in delivering this course. They will be helping you get good data and provide any help you need throughout each lab. They will be responsible for grading your lab reports and notebooks. If at any time during the semester, you have any questions or concerns about the behavior of your Teaching Assistant, please contact the Instructor.

**Notebooks:**

Notebooks should have the following sections: date, title, objective, deviations from the procedure (if any), calculations and results (ex. printouts of images). Notebook will be checked on a weekly basis by Teaching Assistants. The notebooks will be submitted in Sakai.

**Lab reports:** After completing a certain set of labs, each student will be required to submit the lab report in Sakai at the start of next lab. Please see the tentative schedule posted in Sakai.

**Lab report should have the following sections:**

**I. Title**

**II. Objective:** give a one-or-two sentence statement of the goals or purposes of the experiment

**III. Procedure:** describe the steps of the experiment such as concentrations, techniques, instrumentation and so on. It should be sufficiently detailed that the other experienced researchers would be able to repeat the work and obtain comparable results.

*The procedure needs to be written in research paper style*

- IV. Results/Calculations:** observations, equations, calculations, charts, figures, graphs etc which can be used effectively to present results clearly.
- V. Conclusion/Discussion:** the analysis and interpretation of your results. What do results mean? How do they relate to the objective of the experiment? Was the outcome successful? Outline the main conclusion of the project

**A list of 5 lab reports:**

- 1) Media preparation (Lab 1), Mutagenesis Part I and II ( Labs 1 and 2)
- 2) DNA purification, digestion (Lab 3) and Agarose Gel Electrophoresis (Lab 4)
- 3) Plasmid Transformation (Lab 5) Protein Expression (Lab 6) and Purification (Lab 7, 8)
- 4) SDS-PAGE (Lab 9)
- 5) Malachite Green Assay ( Kinetics) (Lab 10,11,12,13)

**The lab reports must be typed.**

*A one point deduction will be applied for each 24-hour period that a lab report or notebook scan is turned in late. Since lab reports will be submitted via Sakai, the deadlines apply regardless of lab attendance.*

*Additionally, there will be a 2 point deduction on a lab report for missing one of the lab sessions covered in that report if no valid reason for the absence.*

**Final Paper:** The paper will be written in the format of a scientific journal: abstract, introduction, materials and methods, results, conclusion, and references.

**Grade Allocation:**

**50% Lab reports.** You are expected to follow a particular format for your research records, which is illustrated in this syllabus.

**10% Notebooks and Laboratory Performance.** The TA in consultation with the instructor will assess this score, which will be based on proper use of instrumentation, good laboratory and leadership skills, safety, taking experimental notes and observation of safety techniques. You are expected to arrive to the laboratory on time and be prepared.

**20% Discussion Section.** The discussion score will be determined by the student's participation, assignments, and performance on quizzes. *There are no make ups for quizzes.*

**20% Final paper.** This paper will build on the lab reports, and will compare kinetic data submitted by other teams. Students will be required to draw conclusions about protein function based upon an analysis of the collated data from some other teams. Due date will be announced and posted on Sakai.

*If the final papers are submitted late, one-point deduction will be assessed for each day of tardiness.*

**Class grades:**

A	= 100-88 %	A- = 87-83 %	B+ = 82-78 %
B	= 77-73 %	B- = 72-68 %	C+ = 67-63 %
C	= 62-58 %	C- = 57-53 %	D+ = 52-48 %
D	= 47-40 %	F = Less than 40 %	

**Office hours:** Zoom office hours will be Tuesdays 9-10 am. You can make in person appointment with me if you need to through email. The office location, telephone number, and e-mail address are: Flanner Hall 428, (773) 508-2883 [aorlof@luc.edu](mailto:aorlof@luc.edu)

If you are unable to contact the Instructor directly, or e-mail, you may leave a phone message with the Chemistry Departmental Office, (773) 508-3100.

**Sakai:** This site contains current information for syllabus, experiments and procedures and scores.

**Academic integrity:** All students in this course are expected to have read and to abide by the demanding standard of personal honesty, drafted by the College of Arts & Sciences, which can be viewed at:

<http://www.uc.edu/cas/advising/academicintegritystatement/>

Any instance of dishonesty (including those detailed on the website provided above) will be reported to The Chair of The Department of Chemistry & Biochemistry who will decide what the next steps may be. In case a violation is detected, the particular assignment may receive a grade of zero.

**PASS/FAIL CONVERSION DEADLINES and AUDIT POLICY.**

A student may request to convert a course into or out of the "Pass/No-Pass" or "Audit" status only within the first two weeks of the semester. For the Fall 2021 semester, students are able to convert a class to "Pass/No-Pass" or "Audit" through Monday, September 13th. Students must submit a request for Pass/No-Pass or Audit to their Academic Advisor (see #11 below).

**RETURNING TO CAMPUS**

Please be familiar with and adhere to all guidelines posted on the *On-Campus Guidelines in Classroom Scenarios of the Return to Campus Guidelines* site: <https://www.luc.edu/returntocampus/classroomscenarios/>

**Course Repeat Rule:** Effective with the Fall 2017 semester, students are allowed only THREE attempts to pass Chemistry courses with a C- or better grade. The three attempts include withdrawals (W).

After the second attempt, the student must secure approval for a third attempt. Students must come to the Chemistry Department, fill out a permission to register form or print it from the Department of Chemistry & Biochemistry website:

<http://www.luc.edu/chemistry/forms/> and obtain a signature from the Undergraduate

Program Director, Assistant Chairperson, or Chairperson in Chemistry. A copy of this form is then taken to your Academic Advisor in Sullivan to secure final permission for the attempt.

**Students with Disabilities:** If you have any special needs, please let me know in the first week of classes. The university provides services for students with disabilities. Any student who would like to use any of these university services should contact the Services for Students with Disabilities (SSWD), Sullivan Center, (773) 508-3700. Further information is available at <http://www.luc.edu/sswd/>.

**Loyola University Absence Policy for Students in Co-Curricular Activities:**

Students missing classes while representing Loyola University Chicago in an official capacity (e.g. intercollegiate athletics, debate team, model government organization) shall be allowed by the faculty member of record to make up any assignments and to receive notes or other written information distributed in the missed classes.

Students should discuss with faculty the potential consequences of missing lectures and the ways in which they can be remedied. Students must provide their instructors with proper documentation describing the reason for and date of absence.

This documentation must be signed by an appropriate faculty or staff member, and it must be provided as far in advance of the absence as possible. It is the responsibility of the student to make up any assignments. If the student misses an examination, the instructor is required to give the student the opportunity to take the examination at another time.

(<https://www.luc.edu/athletheadvising/attendance.shtml>)

**SmartEvals:** Towards the end of the course, the students will receive an email from the Office of Institutional Effectiveness reminding them to provide feedback on the course. They will receive consistent reminders throughout the period when the evaluation is open, and the reminders will stop once they have completed the evaluation. The evaluation is completely anonymous. When the results are released, instructors and departments will not be able to tell which student provided the individual feedback. Because it is anonymous and the results are not released to faculty or departments until after grades have been submitted, the feedback will not impact a student's grade. The feedback is important so that the instructor can gain insight into how to improve their teaching and the department can learn how best to shape the curriculum.

**Recording of Zoom class meetings**

In this class software will be used to record live class discussions. As a student in this class, your participation in live class discussions will be recorded. These recordings will be made available only to students enrolled in the class, to assist those who cannot attend the live session or to serve as a resource for those who would like to review content that was presented. All recordings will become unavailable to students in the class when the course has concluded. *Students will be required to turn on their*

*cameras at the start of class. Students who have a need to participate via audio only must reach out to me to request audio participation only without the video camera enabled.* The use of all video recordings will be in keeping with the University Privacy Statement shown below.

### **Privacy Statement**

Assuring privacy among faculty and students engaged in online and face-to-face instructional activities helps promote open and robust conversations and mitigates concerns that comments made within the context of the class will be shared beyond the classroom. As such, recordings of instructional activities occurring in online or face-to-face classes may be used solely for internal class purposes by the faculty member and students registered for the course, and only during the period in which the course is offered. Students will be informed of such recordings by a statement in the syllabus for the course in which they will be recorded. Instructors who wish to make subsequent use of recordings that include student activity may do so only with informed written consent of the students involved or if all student activity is removed from the recording. Recordings including student activity that have been initiated by the instructor may be retained by the instructor only for individual use.

