

**Instructors:** Dr. P. Shing Ho                      Dr. Narasimha Sreerama                      Dr. Robert Cohen  
MRB 375    Anatomy & Zoology E206 (F)                      MRB 273  
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### **Course Description**

BC411 is delivered as a face-to-face course that covers fundamental concepts of physical chemistry and their application to understanding the behavior of biological systems. It is aimed at providing the student with an appreciation for the basic laws of thermodynamics, quantum mechanics, biochemical equilibria, reaction rates and kinetics in biological reactions, and molecular spectroscopy.

### **Learning Outcomes and Assessment**

Students are expected to learn the applications of quantitative and experimental methods to study and understand biochemical processes. Students are expected to enter the course with a background in chemistry, physics, biology, mathematics (including calculus), and one full year of comprehensive biochemistry. Thus, students enrolled in BC411 will demonstrate the ability to understand the foundational principles from which fundamental biochemical processes are derived; understand how to interpret equations, formulas, and concepts that underlie these principles; and apply these equations, formulas, and concepts to conceptually understand various biochemical processes and solve problems based on experimental observations and quantitative data.

**Class hours:** BC411 Lectures:                      Mon–Wed–Fri 9:00–9:50 AM in Biology 136  
BC411 Recitation 1:                      Thu 9:00–9:50 AM in Clark A202  
BC411 Recitation 2:                      Thu 2:00–2:50 PM in Pathology 109

**Office hours:** Dr. Ho:                      Friday, 2:00 – 2:50 PM in MRB 375  
Dr. Sreerama:                      Wednesday, 8:00 – 8:50 AM in A/Z E206F  
Dr. Cohen:                      Friday, 2:00 – 2:50 PM in MRB 273  
Tom Cast:                      Wednesday, 1:30 – 3:30 PM in MRB 250  
Ryan Czarny:                      Tuesday, 1:30 – 3:30 PM in AZ E210

**Pre/Co-requisites:** Biochemistry (BC401, or BC351 with instructor approval)  
CHEM113, MATH161 or MATH255.

**Text:** *Biophysical Chemistry* (2017) by Klostermeier & Rudolph; CRC Press, Taylor & Francis Group

**Grading:** The traditional grading (A, B, C...) system will be used. Grades in BC411 will be based on six exams (15% each) and weekly problem sets (10% total); there is no cumulative final exam. Students are expected to devote 6 hours each week to complete the assigned homework. A portion of the homework grade will come from in-recitation presentations of answers to the problem sets.

**CSU Student Honor Code:** This course will adhere to the Academic Integrity Policy of the Colorado State University [General Catalog](#) {Page 7} and the [Student Conduct Code](#).

## BC411 Syllabus – Fall 2019

<i>Date</i>	<i>Subject</i>	<i>Reading</i>	<i>Inst</i>
Aug. 26	Introduction to Course & Thermodynamics	Syllabus – Ch 1	SH
28	Systems, Ideal gas equations	Ch 2.1	SH
<b>Wk1</b> 29	<i>Recitation (Math concepts)</i>		GTA
30	Ideal Gases/Thermodynamic Laws 1	Ch 2.2	SH
Sept. 2	<b>Labor day - no class</b>	Ch 2.3	---
4	Thermodynamic Laws 2	Ch 2.4	SH
<b>Wk2</b> 5	<i>Recitation</i>		GTA
Sept. 6	Free Energy/Solution State Thermodynamics	Ch 2.5, 3, 4	SH
Sept. 9	Experimental Thermodynamics <i>End for Exam I</i>	Ch 5	SH
11	Quantum Mechanics Intro/Light	Ch 19.1-19.2.2	SH
<b>Wk3</b> 12	<i>Review</i>		GTA
13	<b>Exam I</b>		SH
Sept. 16	Quantum Mechanics: Particle in 1-D box	<i>ChemWiki QM1 &amp; 2</i>	SH
18	Quantum Mechanics: Particle in 1-D box/QM Tunneling	<i>ChemWiki QM 3</i>	SH
<b>Wk4</b> 19	<i>Quantum Mechanics Math</i>		SH
20	Quantum chemistry: Harmonic oscillator	<i>ChemWiki QM5.5</i>	SH
Sept. 23	Quantum chemistry: Hydrogen atom	<i>ChemWiki QM 5.5, 2</i>	SH
25	Quantum: Hydrogen atom/Atomic Orbitals	<i>ChemWiki QM 6</i>	SH
<b>Wk5</b> 26	<i>Recitation</i>		GTA
27	Quantum: Molecular Orbitals/QM Biology <i>End for Exam II</i>	<i>ChemWiki QM 9</i>	SH
Sept. 30	<b>Exam II</b>		NS
Oct. 2	Free Energy & Intro to Macromolecular Structure	Text 223-236;	NS
<b>Wk6</b> 3	<i>Recitation</i>	251-263	GTA
4	Noncovalent Interaction and Structure		NS
Oct. 7	Ramachandran Plot; Protein Folding	279-296	NS
9	Molecular Dynamics; Protein Folding	348-357	NS
<b>Wk7</b> 10	<i>Recitation</i>		GTA
11	Absorbance, Biological chromophores	365-377	NS
Oct. 14	UV/VIS absorbance, Protein Quantification	380-381;384-386	NS
16	CD spectroscopy	390-398	NS
<b>Wk8</b> 17	<b>Exam III</b>		NS
18	Fluorescence Spectroscopy	404-415; 422; TBD	NS

Oct. 21	NMR – Principles, chemical shifts, 2D	461-484; 489	NS
23	NMR – COSY, NOESY, applications		NS
<b>Wk9</b> 24	<i>Recitation</i>		GTA
25	Crystallography – basics, symmetry	536-556; 562-568	NS
Oct. 28	Crystallography – x-ray diffraction, Miller planes	515-519	NS
<b>Wk10</b> 30	Crystallography – phases, Patterson and density maps		NS
31	<i>Recitation</i>		GTA
Nov. 1	<b>Exam IV</b>		NS
Nov. 4	Kinetics – General principles for rates, reaction orders		RC
6	Kinetics – Half-lives, sequential reactions	Ch 6, 7, & 8	RC
<b>Wk11</b> 7	<i>Recitation</i>		GTA
8	Reversibility, equilibrium, steady state	Ch 9, 10	RC
Nov. 11	Rate constants, catalysis and activation energy		RC
13	Enzyme catalysis – Michaelis-Menten kinetics	Ch 11, 13, 14	RC
<b>Wk12</b> 14	<i>Recitation</i>		GTA
15	Enzymatic reactions and inhibition (I)		RC
Nov. 18	Enzymatic reactions and inhibition (II) <i>End for Exam V</i>		RC
20	Affinity, avidity, and specificity		RC
<b>Wk13</b> 21	<i>Recitation</i>		GTA
22	<b>Exam V</b>		RC
25	<b>Thanksgiving – no class</b>		RC
27	<b>Thanksgiving – no class</b>		RC
<b>Wk14</b> 28	<b>Thanksgiving – no class</b>		----
29	<b>Thanksgiving – no class</b>		----
Dec. 2	Allostery, cooperativity, and biological responses	<i>Supplemental</i>	RC
4	Molecular recognition; drug binding		RC
<b>Wk15</b> 5	<i>Recitation</i>		GTA
6	Membrane composition and structure	Ch 16	RC
Dec. 9	Mass spectrometry	Ch 26.1;	RC
11	Proteomics using mass spectrometry <i>End for Exam VI</i>	<i>supplemental</i>	RC
<b>Wk16</b> 12	<i>Recitation</i>		GTA
13	<b>Exam VI</b>		RC