BINF/BIO 3350: Introduction to Genomics and Bioinformatics

**Instructor Information**
Dr. Erich Baker, erich_baker@Baylor.edu
HNK 360.16
Phone: 710-3876

**Office Hours**
MW 8:00 am – 10:00 pm, H 8:00 am – 9:30 am HNK 330.20, and by appointment.

**Grades**
91 – 100% = A, 88 – 91% = A–; 84 – 87% = B+; 81 – 83% = B; 78 – 80% = B–; 74 – 77% = C+; 71 – 73% = C; 68 – 70% = C–; 60 – 67% = D; < 60 = F

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**About This Course**
Welcome to Genomics and Bioinformatics! This course is designed as an introduction to a broad range of topics that impact contemporary bioinformatics. Much of the material that we will cover in lecture is also covered by the recommended text book, but reading the text alone will not sufficiently prepare you for exams or quizzes. And there are many lectures that the text does not cover; therefore, I recommend that you take very good notes and minimize absences. In addition, my lecture notes and slides will not be made available.

The majority of your evaluation will be based on quizzes and tests. There will be approximately 10 quizzes, each given at the beginning of class. And while they are not intended to be difficult or punitive, their short length (8-12 questions) requires appropriate attention. In addition, I will drop the (2) lowest quiz grades. Both in-class tests and the final exam will be cumulative.

For those of you without prior computer science experience, do not fear, there is not a programing requirement for this course. Instead, it is my intention to familiarize you with the types of problems, algorithms, and databases that impact decisions and problem-solving approaches.

**Make-up Classes**
Occasionally, I will be forced to cancel class due to research-related travel or illness. If these cancellations account for (2) or fewer classes and we make good progress in class, I will not require a make-up lecture. In the event that a make-up class is required, they will be scheduled at 7:00 am in our regular classroom on either a Tuesday or Thursday.

**Presentations**
Every student will be required to give a 10 to 15-minute oral presentation during the last quarter of the class. This presentation will cover an appropriate journal article in an area of bioinformatics covered in class. Complete instructions for this presentation will be given later.

**Academic Success**
If your academic performance in this class is substandard, I will submit an Academic Progress Report to the Success Center during the sixth week of the semester.
**Academic Integrity** Plagiarism or any form of cheating involves a breach of student-teacher trust. This means that any work submitted under your name is expected to be your own, neither composed by anyone else as a whole or in part, nor handed over to another person for complete or partial revision. Be sure to document all ideas that are not your own. Instances of plagiarism or any other act of academic dishonesty will be reported to the Honor Council and may result in failure of the course. Not understanding plagiarism is not an excuse. As a Baylor student, I expect you to be intimately familiar with the Honor Code at: http://www.baylor.edu/honorcode/

**Students Needing Accommodations** Any student who needs academic accommodations related to a documented disability should inform me immediately at the beginning of the semester. You are required to obtain appropriate documentation and information regarding accommodations from the Office of Access and Learning Accommodation (OALA). Contact Information: (254) 710-3605 - Paul L. Foster Success Center, 1st floor on the East Wing of Sid Richardson.

**Title IX Stuff** Baylor University does not discriminate on the basis of sex or gender in any of its education or employment programs and activities, and it does not tolerate discrimination or harassment on the basis of sex or gender. If you or someone you know would like help related to an experience involving sexual or gender-based harassment, sexual assault, sexual exploitation, stalking, intimate partner violence, or retaliation for reporting one of these type of prohibited conduct, please contact the Title IX Office at (254)710-8454 or report online at www.baylor.edu/titleix.

The Title IX office understands the sensitive nature of these situations and can provide information about available on- and off-campus resources, such as counseling and psychological services, medical treatment, academic support, university housing, and other forms of assistance that may be available. Staff members at the office can also explain your rights and procedural options if you contact the Title IX Office. You will not be required to share your experience. **If you or someone you know feels unsafe or may be in imminent danger, please call the Baylor Police Department (254-710-2222) or Waco Police Department (9-1-1) immediately.** For more information on the Title IX Office, the **Sexual and Gender-Based Harassment and Interpersonal Violence policy**, reporting, and resources available, please visit the website provided above.