TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-CORPUS CHRISTI
BIMS 4311
BIOLOGY OF CANCER
SUMMER II, 2013 SYLLABUS
CS 101 MTWR 3:30-5:25 pm

Instructor: Dr. Lillian Waldbeser
Office: Center for the Sciences, Room 242
Office Hours: MTWR 2:00-3:30 pm
Other days of the week: by appointment only
I am happy to see you outside my office hours. Making an appointment will ensure my being in my office when you stop by.
Phone: (361) 825-6050
e-mail: lillian.waldbeser@tamucc.edu

Course Description
This course is a study of the profile of cancer cells, and the various causes of human cancers. Contribution of heredity, environmental factors, and infectious agents to oncogenesis will be studied. Cancer screening, diagnosis, and treatment will be discussed. Various types of cancer will be presented. Research papers on the origin and treatment of these cancer types will be discussed.

Student Learning Objectives
Upon completion of this course, the student will have a good understanding, and will be able to:
1. differentiate a cancer cell from a normal cell
2. summarize the ways in which cancers differ
3. describe the invasion and metastasis process
4. identify the causes of various cancers
5. explain how infectious agents cause cancer
6. summarize the role of oncogenes and tumor suppressor genes in cancer
7. identify certain hereditary risk factors
8. evaluate cancer diagnosis and treatment procedures
9. explain methods of preventing cancer
10. give a 15 minutes talk or write a four-page term paper on any of the topics mentioned above

Required Text:

Further Reading
2. Introduction to the Cellular and Molecular Biology of Cancer, Knowles, M.
   *Science* 308:618.

GRADERS
The final grade is based on an accumulation of total points scored by the following activities:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
<th>POINTS</th>
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<tr>
<td>Exam I</td>
<td>150</td>
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<td>Exam II</td>
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<td>Exam III</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>300</td>
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<td>Term Paper</td>
<td>100</td>
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<td>Class exercises</td>
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<td>Attendance</td>
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<td>Total points</td>
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The following scale will be used to report grades:
- **A**: 850 - 1000 points = 85 - 100%
- **B**: 750 - 849 " = 75 - 84.9%
- **C**: 650 - 749 " = 65 - 74.9%
- **D**: 500 - 649 " = 50 - 64.9%
- **F**: Below 500 " = < 50%

ADDITIONAL STIPULATIONS TO THE FINAL GRADE:
The Final Exam is comprehensive.

**Make-up examinations and late assignments:** For some scheduled events, you may arrange to take the exam or turn in an assignment before, but not after, its scheduled time.

**Late Assignment Penalty:** 10 % assignment grade value deduction.

**TERM PAPER:**
You are to write a four-page term paper on the topic of your choice, provided the topic is on cancer: eg. the genetics and causes of a specific form of cancer and the latest advances in the treatment.

**Literature Cited/References:** must include at least *five (5) relevant citations.*
Of these five:
- 3 (at least) must be from peer-reviewed journals,
- 2 (at least) must be primary research articles (*not* reviews or summaries),
- 3 (at least) must be published within the past 10 years.
ATTENDANCE POLICY:
Attendance is the student’s responsibility. Students are responsible for the material covered in every lecture regardless of your attendance. **Nothing** missed during an unexcused absence can be made up. Alternative arrangements to complete an assignment is allowed in an excused absence. Only **unavoidable** absences are excused. Routine events (non-emergency medical visits, parent-teacher conferences, household or auto repairs) should be scheduled to avoid conflicts with class. An acceptable excuse must be:

- from an appropriate source (doctor, dentist, funeral director)
- In writing, on official letterhead, and signed (it will not be returned)
- **presented prior to, or within 1 week of the absence**

The note version of my lectures will be on Blackboard.

To access Blackboard:
- Go to TAMUCC home page: http://www.tamucc.edu/
- Select: Blackboard
- Enter your ID and Password, which are the same as your campus computer user ID and password.
  If you have not applied for a computer user ID, go to the following website:
  http://kestrel.tamucc.edu/~newuser
  If you have any problems logging into Blackboard with your new User ID, contact:
  TAMUCC Island Online Help Desk at (361) 825-2825 or the Collegis Helpdesk at: 1-877-725-4357.
- After you have logged in, you can select the courses that you wish to browse.
  e.g. Summer II, 2013
  BIMS 4311.001  Biology of Cancer
  Instructor: Lillian Waldbeser

OTHER EXPECTATIONS:
You are expected to attend all classes in a timely manner. It is expected that you will take notes, ask/answer questions, and participate in group activities. Learning is more than spoon-feeding, memorization and regurgitation. While memorizing is an important first step, you should also be able to apply knowledge by linking data and synthesizing into useful concepts. You are responsible for your own education. Read the books, handouts and reserve material for further detail not covered in class. If you don’t understand, then please ask, or see the instructor after class. Don’t allow yourself to fall behind. Be diligent and thorough on written assignments and examination answers. If you are not sure of an answer, at least try.

DISRUPTIVE BEHAVIOR:
As adult university students, you are expected to act with courtesy and common sense. Disruptive, disrespectful, or abusive language/behavior towards anyone in class (student, staff, faculty) will not be tolerated and could result in permanent removal from class. This includes talking in class, insubordination, and **electronic disturbances (cell phones, pagers, gameboys, etc)**. **Turn them off.** Children are not allowed in class.
STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES
Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act in making reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. If you need disability accommodations in this class, please see me as soon as possible. If you suspect that you may have a disability (physical impairment, learning disability, psychiatric disability, etc.), please contact the Services for Students with Disabilities Office (located in Driftwood 101) at 825-5816. It is important that you contact them in a timely fashion as it may take several days to review requests and prepare accommodations. Please have your accommodation letter and the necessary forms from Services for Students with Disabilities Office with you when you come to see me.

DROPPING A CLASS:
Please consult with me before you decide to drop the course, to be sure that it is the choice for you. If you decide to drop the course, you must initiate the process by going to the Student Service Center, and filing a course drop form. Just stopping class attendance will not automatically result in your record as having dropped the course.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:
The college catalog contains the university statement on academic integrity. Cheating will not be tolerated and will result in a failing grade in the course and possible further disciplinary action by the university. Plagiarism, is not tolerated. All written assignments must be IN YOUR OWN WORDS.

GRADE APPEALS:
As stated in the Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi University Rules and Procedures (Section B [Academic Program], Part 13 [Students]: 13.02.99.C2 [Student Grade Appeals] and 13.02.99C2.01 [Student Grade Appeal Procedures]), a student who believes that he or she has not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in the class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. The burden of proof is on the student to demonstrate the appropriateness of the appeal. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details, including the responsibilities of the parties involved in the process and the number of days allowed for completing the steps in the process, consult the University Rules and Procedures specified above (accessible through the University Rules and Procedures website at http://www.tamucc.edu/provost/university_rules/index.html). For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Office of Student Affairs.
Before you enter the lecture hall, **turn OFF your cellular phone and/or beeper or put on silent mode.**
The instructor reserves the right to modify this schedule.

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