

questions & **3)** assigned homework problem sets prior to each exam (below). There are three Lecture Exams (25% each) & one cumulative Final Exam (25%). **The lowest exam score will be dropped.** Typical format includes multiple choices, true/false, and problem solving. Students must bring their student ID card, and must clearly write their name, student ID, and each chosen answer on their original exam copy. This exam copy must be returned to the instructor after each exam and serves as the final record for exam grading.

Achieve Online Assignments (15%): Registration of Achieve for Genetics Essentials will be announced in class along with a revised syllabus. All online assignments in this course will be due at the start of the next class **UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED BY THE INSTRUCTOR**

Participation (10%): Class and/or a participation quiz aimed at reinforcing past lessons or gauging understanding of upcoming topics. Students are also expected to participate during in-class activities designed to enhance understanding of the course material.

Mid-term, or in-progress grades: The instructor may submit in-progress grades prior to mid-term (**October 5th, 2023**). In theory, a mid-term grade allows for students to assess how they are doing in class by midterm. In this course, at this date students will have feedback on several exams and in-class participation. Students will be assigned an overall average grade at this point on the normal scale of A-F viewable on Banner. Students

midterm without academic penalty. The deadline for withdrawal is listed in Banner about a week later. *NOTE: -term grades are submitted.

Therefore, poor performers will have the ability to improve upon these grades, while high performers are ill-advised to rest upon their laurels.

Class Conduct:

1. Please arrive on time.
2. Please come prepared for lecture each week (i.e., taking notes, being ready to participate, etc.)
3. Cell phones are not to be used in class. **This means no texting during class. Cell phone use during an exam will result in a failing grade for that exam.**
4. If you arrive late for an exam, you will be allowed to take the exam. However, you must turn in the exam paper at the **regularly scheduled end of the class**. You will not be allowed extra time unless a documentable emergency has occurred.

Academic Integrity: Any student cheating or plagiarizing will be penalized by receiving a zero for the assignment and will be reported to the dean of students. Refer to the Student Code of Ethics in the VSU Student Handbook.

Student identification: Students should always have their VSU student identification card. To verify the student photo identification cards at any time during lecture or during exams.

Privacy Act (FERPA): The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) prohibit the public posting of grades by social security number or in any manner personally identifiable to the individual student. No grades can be given by email or over the telephone, as positive identification cannot be made by this manner. Grades will be posted through Blazeview course website.

Non-

Campus Gun Carry Statement (HB 280): If you choose to carry and concealed weapon on campus, you are responsible for knowing and following the law. Refer here for FAQ: valdosta.edu/administration/finance-admin/police/campuscarry/

General Silliness: While I would be overjoyed if every student would read this far into the syllabus, I expect most of you will not. Therefore, I will give one bonus point to any student who randomly emails me an awesome photo of their favorite Anuran (what is that?) within the first two weeks of class. With the scientific name (*Genus species*) of said organism in the subject line.

SOI Statement: At the end of the term, all students are encouraged to complete an online Student Opinion of Instruction survey (SOI) that will be available through SmartEvals. Students will receive an email through their VSU email address when the SOI is available (generally at least one week before the end of the term). SOI responses are anonymous to instructors/administrators. Before final grade submission, instructors will not be able to see any responses, but they can see the percentage of students who have or have not completed their SOIs. While instructors will not be able to see student names, an automated system will send a reminder email to those who have yet to complete their SOIs. Students who withdraw or drop a course will also be sent invitations to complete the Dropped Course Survey. Complete information about the SOIs, including how to access the survey, is available on the SOI Procedures webpage.