

# BIOL/CS/SE 123A: BIOINFORMATICS I

Section 01, Fall 2020

San José State University

Department of Computer Science

## COURSE AND CONTACT INFORMATION

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**Instructor:** Wendy Lee Ph.D.

**Email:** wendy.lee@sjsu.edu

**Class Days/Time:** Tue & Thu 9:00 am – 10:15 am (Pacific Standard Time)

**Office Hours:** Schedule appointment @ [www.sjsu.edu/people/wendy.lee/](http://www.sjsu.edu/people/wendy.lee/)  
Wednesday 10:00 am – 11:00 am  
Friday 8:30 am– 9:30 am

**Classroom:** Online via Zoom

**Prerequisites:** Biol 30 and Biol 31, or CS 46A and CS 46B

## COURSE FORMAT

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- This course will be conducted in a hybrid mode: Lectures and Labs will take place during live Zoom meetings. Zoom lectures will be recorded and posted in the Canvas Learning Management System at <https://sjsu.instructure.com>.
- Class time (live session) will be spent either in “lecture” mode or in “lab” mode, explained in “Class Protocol” in this document.
- Course materials such as syllabus, handouts, notes, hands-on exercises, projects, quizzes, exams, etc. can be found on Canvas Learning Management System. You are responsible for regularly checking with the Canvas messaging system to learn of any updates.
- Written and oral assessments will be used to measure student learning in this course.

## COURSE DESCRIPTION

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Introduction to the main public domain tools, databases and methods in bioinformatics. Analysis of algorithms behind the most successful tools, such as local and global sequence alignment packages, and the underlying methods used in

fragment assembly packages. Solution of complex biological questions requiring modification of standard code.

## COURSE LEARNING OUTCOME (CLO)

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Upon successful completion of this course, you will be familiar with the following concepts and will be able to apply them in appropriate situations:

- CLO1. Public DNA and protein databases, and how to use them.
- CLO2. Pairwise and multiple sequence alignments, and the dynamic programming algorithms that compute them.
- CLO3. Computation and interpretation of sequence homology.
- CLO4. Phylogenetic trees, and the algorithms that compute them.
- CLO5. Analyze high-throughput sequencing data.

## TEXTS/READINGS

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Course readings, examples, exercises, etc. will be assigned and provided by the instructor.

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS

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1. **Online Discussion (10%)**: Weekly online discussion will take place in Canvas on topics that we cover in lectures and labs that week. To receive full credits, participation in the discussion must take place within one week from the time the discussion is posted.
2. **Quizzes (10%)**: Quizzes will take place every Tuesday at the beginning of class to assess students' knowledge on the course materials from the week before. A unique password will be provided for each quiz during lecture. Each quiz will expire at the end of Wednesday of that week. **No make up quizzes will be given.**
3. **Hands-on Lab Report (30%)**: The purpose of the hands-on lab is to develop your understanding of the material and your skills in problem-solving. You will work on the hands-on exercise with a group partner assigned by the instructor. Each student must write and submit independent lab reports. Hands-on lab reports are only accepted in Canvas. You must submit lab report on time to receive full credit.
4. **Take-home Midterms (MT) I & II (20%)**: MT1 (10%): October 6, 2020, MT2 (10%): November 19, 2020. They will be conducted within Canvas. No make-up exams will be given if a student misses the midterm exam

submission deadline (unless you have a legitimate excuse or other personal emergencies and can provide documented evidence).

- 5. Final Project (25%) & Presentation (5%):** Final project and presentation will be used to assess student's understanding of the course materials at the end of the semester instead of a final exam. Each student will be given a unique problem to solve for the final project. The Final Project report and all the associated files must be submitted in Canvas are due on Dec 1, 2020. Final Project Presentation: Between Dec 1 and Dec 7 - a 10-minute time slot will be assigned by the instructor for a live presentation via Zoom.

## GRADING INFORMATION

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**Grading calculation will be based on the following:**

- Online Discussion - 10%
- Quizzes - 10%
- Hands-on Lab Reports - 30%
- Take-home Midterm I & II - 20%
- Final Project - 25%
- Final Project Presentation - 5%

**Late Submission** - No late submission of lab report, take-home exams, and final project will be accepted. However, under exceptional circumstances, one lab report per student might be accepted late. It will need to be handed in prior to the following class meeting and will be graded with 30% off. Such an extension should be requested from the instructor.

**Take-home Exams:** You must submit your own work only. Copying and any other forms of cheating will not be tolerated and will result in a failing grade (F) for the course and combined with other disciplinary actions from the university.

**Grading Scale:**

Point Range	Letter Grade	Point Range	Letter Grade
97.0 - 100	A+	72.0 - 76.99	C
93.0 - 96.99	A	70.0 - 71.99	C-
90.0 - 92.99	A-	67.0 - 69.99	D+
87.0 - 89.99	B+	62.0 - 66.99	D
82.0 - 86.99	B	60.0 - 61.99	D-
80.0 - 81.99	B-	<60.0	F
77.0 - 79.99	C+		

# VIRTUAL CLASSROOM PROTOCOL

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- **Live Session via Zoom:** Live Zoom meeting will be used as a dual-purpose virtual classroom. It can be a regular lecture room, or it can be a computer laboratory for hands-on team exercises in break-out rooms.
- **Lecture Mode:** This is when Zoom is used as a virtual lecture room. Students are expected to listen and follow the lecture. Be considerate to your classmates and follow the lecture. Keep your microphone muted during lecture. You can use the chat in Zoom to post questions during lecture.
- **Lab Mode:** Zoom break-out rooms will be used to group students into teams of three or more to work on hands-on lab exercises. Work collaboratively on problems of the hands-on exercise and share your ideas and solutions with your classmates.
- **Attendance:** Live virtual class attendance is highly recommended and strongly encouraged.
- **Follow the rules of netiquette.** Adhere to the same standards of behavior online that you follow in real life. Be respectful. Dress appropriately if you are going to participate in the virtual classroom with the camera on.
- **Recording of Zoom Classes:** Instructor will record the live virtual classes using Zoom and the recordings will be shared in the Canvas course shell. If you do not wish to be identified in a class recording, please contact your instructor to arrange an “anonymous” option prior to class.
- **Zoom recordings and course materials:** You are allowed view the Zoom recordings for your own study purposes only. You do not have the permission to record any course materials. Students will not be permitted to share any class recordings and course materials with someone who isn't enrolled in the class or without permission. The lecture recordings and course materials are protected by instructor's copyright.
- **Accessibility:** Any student that needs accommodations or assistive technology due to a disability should work with the Accessible Education Center (AEC), and the instructor.
- **Be Punctual:** Please arrive to the live sessions on-time so that you benefit fully from the course experience and you do not disturb classmates and the instructor while class is in session.
- **Stay on top of coursework:** Students are responsible for knowing all materials covered in class lectures, readings, assignments, and other course-related work.

## TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

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Students are required to have an electronic device (laptop, desktop or tablet) with a camera and built-in microphone. SJSU has a free equipment loan program available for students: <http://www.sjsu.edu/equipmentcheckout>. Students are responsible for ensuring that they have access to reliable Wi-Fi during tests. If students are unable to have reliable Wi-Fi, they must inform the instructor, as soon as possible or at the latest one week before the test date to determine an alternative. See [Learn Anywhere website: https://www.sjsu.edu/learnanywhere/equipment/index.php](https://www.sjsu.edu/learnanywhere/equipment/index.php) for current Wi-Fi options on campus.

## VIRTUAL CLASSROOM ETIQUETTE

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- **Mute Your Microphone:** To help keep background noise to a minimum, make sure you mute your microphone when you are not speaking.
- **Be Mindful of Background Noise and Distractions:** Find a quiet place to “attend” class, to the greatest extent possible.
- **Avoid video setups** where people may be walking behind you, people talking/making noise, etc.
- **Avoid activities** that could create additional noise, such as shuffling papers, listening to music in the background, etc.
- **Position Your Camera Properly:** Be sure your webcam is in a stable position and focused at eye level.
- **Limit Your Distractions/Avoid Multitasking:** You can make it easier to focus on the meeting by turning off notifications, closing or minimizing running apps, and putting your smartphone away (unless you are using it to access Zoom).
- **Use Appropriate Virtual Backgrounds:** If using a virtual background, it should be appropriate and professional and should NOT suggest or include content that is objectively offensive or demeaning.

## UNIVERSITY POLICIES

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Per University Policy S16-9, university-wide policy information relevant to all courses, such as academic integrity, accommodations, etc. will be available on Office of Graduate and Undergraduate Programs’ Syllabus Information web page at <http://www.sjsu.edu/gup/syllabusinfo/>

# COURSE SCHEDULE

The course schedule is subject to change with fair notice. Changes will be announced on Canvas.

Week	Date	Topics
1	8/20	Syllabus. Introductions. Course Expectations. Bioinformatics: historical development, current challenges. <i>Hands-On #1</i>
2	8/25	Background: Molecular biology. <i>Hands-On #2</i>
2	8/27	Background: Molecular biology. <i>Hands-On #2</i>
3	9/1	Bioinformatics Databases. <i>Hands-On #3</i>
3	9/3	Bioinformatics Databases. <i>Hands-On #3</i>
4	9/8	Pairwise sequence alignment. <i>Hands-On #4</i>
4	9/10	Pairwise sequence alignment. <i>Hands-On #4</i>
5	9/15	Pairwise sequence alignment. <i>Hands-On #5</i>
5	9/17	Pairwise sequence alignment. <i>Hands-On #5</i>
6	9/22	Multiple sequence alignment. <i>Hands-On #6</i>
6	9/24	Multiple sequence alignment. <i>Hands-On #6</i>
7	9/29	Multiple sequence alignment. <i>Hands-On #7</i>
7	10/1	Multiple sequence alignment. <i>Hands-On #7</i>
8	10/6	<b>Term Exam #1</b>
8	10/8	Phylogenetic inference. <i>Hands-On #8</i>
9	10/13	Phylogenetic inference. <i>Hands-On #8</i>
9	10/15	Phylogenetic inference. <i>Hands-On #9</i>
10	10/20	Phylogenetic inference. <i>Hands-On #9</i>
10	10/22	Sequence Motifs. <i>Hands-On #10</i>
11	10/27	Sequence Motifs. <i>Hands-On #10</i>
11	10/29	Sequence Motifs. <i>Hands-On #11</i>
12	11/3	Sequence Motifs. <i>Hands-On #11</i>
12	11/5	Next Generation Sequencing. <i>Hands-On #12</i>
13	11/10	Next Generation Sequencing. <i>Hands-On #12</i>
13	11/12	CRISPR Gene-editing. <i>Hands-On #13</i>
14	11/17	CRISPR Gene-editing. <i>Hands-On #13</i>
14	11/19	<b>Term Exam #2</b>
15	11/24	<b>Guest Lecture</b>
15	11/26	<b>Thanksgiving Holiday</b>
16	12/1	<b>Final Project due.</b> Project presentations
16	12/1-12/7	Project presentations

**Important dates:**

**08/31/2020:** Last day to drop courses without an entry on student's permanent record.

**09/08/2020:** Last day to add courses for Fall 2020.

**11/13/2020:** Last day to Withdraw for Fall 2020.