



Department of Biochemistry
& Biomedical Sciences

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Dear Students of Biochemistry 2B03:

The university community takes the health and wellness of our members seriously and we are interested in slowing the potential for spread of COVID-19. We are committed to ensuring the successful completion of the current academic term by all of our students. While the University has taken many measures to prepare and keep our community informed as the pandemic has unfolded, the university has made a decision to suspend classes at McMaster.

McMaster in-person classes and tests for undergraduate and graduate students will end as of Friday March 13th and no in-person exams will be held at the end of this term.

The following describes what you can expect for Biochemistry 2B03 between now and the end of the term:

Between now and April 7, you can expect the following changes with respect to course instruction for this course:

- There will be no changes with respect to instruction for the rest of the term as all course content has been completed and we had entered the individual and small group project phase of the course
- All presentations have been cancelled, rather, students will submit their powerpoint presentation with detailed script as outlined below regarding the assessment

In addition, you can expect the following changes to the assessments used for this course:

- The final exam is cancelled
- All student presentations are cancelled
- I have produced the following re-weighting scheme:
 - Test 1 re-weighted: now 35% from original 25%
 - Test 2 re-weighted: now 35% from original 25%
 - Individual Project re-weighted: now 10% from original 5%
 - Group Project re-weighted: now 20% from original 15%
 - Final Exam: No final exam (now 0% from original 30%)
- We have altered the requirements for the remaining individual and group project activities:

1) For the individual project, you need to produce two outcomes that will be marked by your TA: a 2-page (single-spaced, Times New Roman, Font Size 12) essay (now 5% from original 2%) on this item and a 2-minute YouTube clip (now 5% from original 3%)

2) For the group project, you need to produce two outcomes that will be marked: a 5-page (single-spaced, Times New Roman, Font Size 12) essay on this item (now 10% from original 5%) and a ppt file for 15-minute presentation with detailed script for each slide (now 10% from original 7.5%)

3) Each group member and leader should e-mail Luke Yaeger and your designated TA, your individual essay and group essay (in a Word file – please make sure to properly identify group number and group member names on the document, and upload your YouTube clip to A2L) by Monday, March 23 2020 at 5 pm. Each group leader should upload your group ppt file to A2L by Monday, March 23 at 10 pm.

If you have a need for accommodations, please continue to communicate with Student Accessibility Services and keep me informed.

In the event significant changes to the COVID-19 situation, further changes may need to be made to this course. Please visit <https://covid19.mcmaster.ca/> for up-to-date university information.

Sincerely,

Dr. Yingfu Li, Instructor

Dr. Brian Coombes, Chair