

March 18, 2020

Dear Students of BIOCHEM 3Z03:

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 13<sup>th</sup> and no in-person exams will be held at the end of this term.**

The following describes what you can expect for BIOCHEM 3Z03 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:

- Since we are working on group projects, continue to do so virtually
- The TAs and I will still be available by email for all questions, and can do virtual meetings if needed
- Keep watching Avenue for any notices about the group project, suggestions, etc.

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

- Summary Report 3 is still due as described in the course outline.
- There will be no mark assigned for attendance at presentations. Rather, the Peer Evaluation will be worth 5 marks. Instructions on how to submit that will be available on Avenue by March 20<sup>th</sup>, and the deadline will be changed to March 31. Failure to submit a peer evaluation for all members of your group, will result in YOUR peer evaluation mark being 0.
- For the final presentation, your group will still need to put together a powerpoint presentation – pymol movies and all. On each slide, your group will be required to include a narrative of what you would say as if you were presenting to an audience. Myself and the TAs will assess the presentation based solely on the PowerPoint and narrative. The only change to the rubric will be the elimination of the “answering of questions” criterion. All other criteria will remain the same. Due date for the powerpoint presentation for ALL groups will be **March 31, at 11:59 pm**, uploaded to Avenue2Learn, in the “Group Presentation” folder. **Make sure your title slide has all of your group members names.**

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. S. Andres