



Department of Biochemistry
& Biomedical Sciences

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Dear Students of Biochem 4M03:

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 Biochem4M03 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:

- All lectures will be audio recorded, with subtitles and available online on Avenue to Learn
- Office hours will be held virtually upon request – please email the TA Christian Bellissimo to schedule a virtual meeting (bellisc@mcmaster.ca)

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

- The optional “re-marking of assignment” will still be offered as per the class syllabus – please refer to the syllabus for details.
- The final exam will be completed on the date and time allocated by the Registrar’s Office but will be completed online through A2L in an open book format (Wednesday April 22nd 12.30-2.45pm).
- You can expect the process to occur as follows:
 - A dropbox folder will be opened on April 22nd at 12.30 with the final exam posted
 - Final completed exams should be uploaded NO LATER than 2.45pm
 - Late submission = zero mark
 - *We have included an additional 15min to the exam time to allow for downloading and uploading of documents and exam questions.*
- The final exam will be OPTIONAL. If you choose NOT to write the final exam your mark will be calculated based upon Test #1, Test #2 and your final Assignment mark. If you do not upload a final exam by 2.45pm on Wed April 22nd we will assume that you have chosen this option, and your mark will be calculated based on your tests and assignment mark.

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. Deborah Sloboda, Instructor

Dr. Brian Coombes, Chair