



BIOL 4061 Research
Spring 2019 January 14 – May 11, 2019

Instructors:	Dr. Deirdre Vaden and Ms. Kimberly Gay
Section # and CRN:	P01, 26451
Office Location:	Vaden Office - E.E. O'Banion Science Building, Suite 430AB Gay Office - Room 126C- John B. Coleman Library- First Floor Reference
Office Phone:	Vaden Office number: (936) 261 3172 Gay Office number: (936) 261 1535
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Office Hours:	Vaden - Tuesday 11AM – 12:50PM, Wed., 10-10:50AM, 1-1:50PM, or by appointment Gay - Mondays and Wednesdays 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm (or by appointment)
Mode of Instruction:	Face to Face
Course Location:	E.E. O'Banion Science Building, room A104 and 123 (computer laboratory)
Class Days & Times:	Monday 5 – 6:50PM
Catalog Description:	Research. (0-2) Credit 1 semester hour. Library and laboratory work in specific biological problems.
Prerequisites:	none
Co-requisites:	none

Required Text:

Literature that covers comprehensive genealogy topics will be provided in the eCourses learning platform.

Comprehensive genealogy includes the use of DNA testing in combination with traditional genealogy research to infer ancestral relationships. This interdisciplinary course will focus on evidence-based traditional and genetic genealogical studies and will address ethical, legal, and social issues in genealogy. The course will guide students on familial database mining and deep-web searching strategies for evidence-based genealogy. The course will emphasize an Africana genealogy research methodology. Students will explore forensic genealogy (genealogical research, analysis, and reporting in cases with legal implications) for the purposes of understanding ancestry through promoting technological advances of DNA ancestry and Direct-To-Consumer (DTC) testing. Students will create their own pedigree/family history and display their history through written and oral communications. Along with class assignments, students will gain an opportunity to be engaged in multiple activities. The activities include, but are not limited to:

- guest speakers for ethical, legal, and social issues in genealogy,
- writing a group white paper on comprehensive genealogy,
- participating in student trips ("Genealogy After Dark" at Clayton Library Center for Genealogical Research and a historical museum),
- researching personal ancestry,
- researching prominent figures at PVAMU,
- presentation of student work,
- assembling a genealogy portfolio and
- an opportunity to participant in the PVAMU "DNA Swab for Ancestry Celebration" and "DNA Ancestry Results Ceremony".

Student Learning Outcomes:

Program Learning Outcome # Alignment: Knowledge of #1) the chemical basis of life, #2) the central concepts of genetics; #3) Cell Biology; #4) Organismal Biology; and #5) Scientific Communication

Core Curriculum Outcome Alignment: Critical Thinking, Communication, Empirical and Quantitative Skills, and Teamwork

	Upon successful completion of the BIOL 4061 course, students will be able to demonstrate the following competencies	Program Learning Outcome # Alignment	Core Curriculum Outcome Alignment
1	Develop a comprehensive understanding of genealogy.	#1 - #4	Critical Thinking
2	Demonstrate mastery of the scientific method. Apply critical thinking skills to genealogy research and scientific inquiry.	#5	Critical Thinking
4	Define and explain biological concepts relevant to genealogy	#1 - #4	
5	Analyze and interpret empirical and quantitative data	#5	Empirical and Quantitative Skills
6	Demonstrate the ability to effectively communicate the fundamentals of genealogy	#5	Communication
7	Demonstrate the ability to engage in productive teamwork	#5	Communication, Teamwork

Major Course Requirements

Method of Determining Final Course Grade

Course Grade Requirement	Percent	Points
1) 4 Exams <i>traditional genealogy, genetic genealogy, law and ethics</i>	25%	25 points
2) Class Assignments <i>eCourses quizzes, surveys, class assignments</i>	25%	25 points
3) Class Room Participation	25 %	25 points
4) Research Paper/ Presentation <i>written paper, presentation, genealogy portfolio</i>	25%	25 points
Total:	100%	100 points

Grading Criteria and Conversion:

A = 90-100 B = 80-89 C = 70-79 D = 60-69 F = Below 60

Detailed Description of Major Assignments:

Assignment Title	Description and Grade Requirement
<u>4 Exams</u>	<u>Valued at 25% of the total grade</u>

Four major lecture exams will be given during the semester. Exams will consist of 50 to 100 multiple-choice questions and essay questions. These exams will cover information covered in the lectures. Exams may consist of multiple choice, K-type (multiple-multiple choice), matching, diagrams, fill-in-the-blank, true-false, short answer and/or essay questions.

There will be no makeup exams for a missed lecture exam, except for documented excuses. All make-up exams must be taken within two class days upon returning to class. All make-up exams will be essay exams. Each student is responsible for the materials missed during an absence from class. Excused or unexcused absences do not release the student from obtaining the assignments that are missed during an absence. The dates of the lecture exams will be announced in class and posted on eCourses. The lecture exams count for 50% of your grade.

****Exam Policy:** Exams should be taken as scheduled. No makeup examinations will be allowed except under documented emergencies and student must provide a officially documented excuse (See Student Handbook). The final exam schedule is set by the University. *Do not schedule any activity or leave the university during the final exam period. The date of the final exam is tentatively scheduled by the university (refer to the Spring 2019 Final Exam Schedule on last page of course syllabus or PVAMU website).

Class Assignments

Valued at 25% of the total grade:

1) The eCourses (web-based) chapter quizzes are weekly web based activities designed to measure the ability to apply critical thinking, and use empirical and quantitative skills presented in course material. There will be multiple activities given during the semester. The web-based activities schedule (availability and due dates) will be available in the eCourses.

Class Quizzes: During the semester, quizzes may be given in the lecture. Dates for the quizzes may not be announced. Quizzes may be given at the beginning or end of the class. Please arrive to class on time. If you miss a quiz, your grade for that quiz is zero.

Research Paper/ Presentation

Valued at 25% of the total grade:

Students will demonstrate written communication and critical thinking skills by writing a short written report that summarizes the 3 assigned discussion forum topics covered during the semester

Classroom Participation

Valued at 25% of the total grade:

Students will collaboratively engage in assigned scientific topics in an electronic discussion forum. For group discussion forums, students will be randomly placed in small groups and will demonstrate productive teamwork by exhibiting the ability to work effectively with others to support a shared goal and consider different points of view.

Course Procedures or Additional Instructor Policies

Taskstream

Taskstream is a tool that Prairie View A&M University uses for assessment purposes. At least one of your assignments is **REQUIRED** to be submitted as an "artifact," an item of coursework that serves as evidence that course objectives are met. More information will be provided during the semester, but for general information, you can visit Taskstream via the link in eCourses. Writing Assignments will be uploaded to Taskstream.

Semester Calendar (tentative)

Week 1 - 7	<i>January 14 – March 3</i>
Topic Description	See eCourses for detailed schedule
Readings:	See eCourses
Assignment (s):	eCourses assignment(s)
Week 8	<i>Mar 4 – 10,</i>
Assignment (s):	Mid-semester examination
Week 9	<i>Mar 11- 17, Springbreak</i>
Week 10 - 13	<i>Mar 18 - April 14</i>
Topic Description	See eCourses for detailed schedule
Readings:	See eCourses
Assignment (s):	eCourses assignment(s)
Week 14	<i>Apr 15 - 21</i>
Assignment (s):	Presentations
Week 15	<i>Apr 22 - 28</i>
Assignment (s):	Portfolios DUE
Week 16	<i>Apr 29 – May 5</i>
Topic Description	Apr 29 – 30, Course Review Days (Classes must convene and instructors will prepare students for final exams) Apr 30 Tues - Last Class Day May 1 Wed - Final Examinations begin Wednesday, May 1 4:00pm–6:00pm, Research (BIOL 4061 P01) Final Exam

Readings:	Review course content								
Assignment (s):	eCourses: Student Opinion Survey, Course Surveys available								
Week 17	<i>May 6 - 11</i>								
Topic Description	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>May 7 Tues</td> <td>Final Examinations end</td> </tr> <tr> <td>May 09 Thurs</td> <td>Final grades due for graduation candidates by Noon</td> </tr> <tr> <td>May 11 Sat</td> <td>Spring Commencement</td> </tr> <tr> <td>May 14 Tues</td> <td>Final grades due for all other students by 11.59 p.m.</td> </tr> </table>	May 7 Tues	Final Examinations end	May 09 Thurs	Final grades due for graduation candidates by Noon	May 11 Sat	Spring Commencement	May 14 Tues	Final grades due for all other students by 11.59 p.m.
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Student Support and Success

John B. Coleman Library

The library and its partners have as their mission to provide resources and instructional material in support of the evolving curriculum, as a partner in Prairie View A&M University's mission of teaching, research, and service and to support the University's core values of access and quality, diversity, leadership, relevance, and social responsibility through emphasis on ten key areas of service. It maintains library collections and access both on campus, online, and through local agreements to further the educational goals of students and faculty. <https://www.pvamu.edu/library/> Phone: 936-261-1500

The Learning Curve (Center for Academic Support)

The Learning Curve offers Tutoring via peer tutoring. The services include workshops (i.e., Save My Semester, Recalculate Your Route), seminars (i.e., Tools You Can Use: TI-84), group review sessions (i.e., College Algebra Topic Reviews, GRE Preparation), group study opportunities (i.e., TSIA, HESI, Study Break, Exam Cram), and test-taking strategies (How to take Notes, Study Buddy, 5 Day Study Guide). The Learning Curve is a nationally certified tutoring program through the National Tutoring Association. The peer tutors are trained and certified by the coordinator each semester. Location: J.B. Coleman Library Rm. 207F. Phone: 936-261-1561

The Center for the Oversight and Management of Personalized Academic Student Success (COMPASS)

The Center for the Oversight and Management of Personalized Academic Student Success (COMPASS) is designed to help Prairie View students in their second year and beyond navigate towards graduation by providing the following services: Academic Advisement, Targeted Tutorials for Personalized Learning, Campus-Wide Referrals, and Academic & Social Workshops. Location: J.B. Coleman Library Rm. 306. Phone: 936-261-1040

Writing Center

The Writing Center provides student consultants on all aspects of the writing process and a variety of writing assignments. Writing Center consultations assist students in such areas as prewriting, brainstorming, audience awareness, organization, research, and citation. Students taking on-line courses or courses at the Northwest Houston Center or College of Nursing may consult remotely or by email. Location: Hilliard Hall Rm. 121. Phone: 936-261-3724.

Student Counseling Services

The Student Counseling Services unit offers a range of services and programs to assist students in maximizing their potential for success: short-term individual, couples, and group counseling, as well as crisis intervention, outreach, consultation, and referral services. The staff is licensed by the State of Texas and provides assistance to students who are dealing with academic skills concerns, situational crises, adjustment problems, and emotional difficulties. Information shared with the staff is treated confidentially and in accordance with Texas State Law. Location: Owens-Franklin Health Center Rm. 226. Phone: 936-261-3564

Testing

The Department of Testing administers College Board CLEP examinations, the HESI A2 for pre-nursing majors, LSAT for law school applicants and MPRE for second-year law students, the Experiential Learning Portfolio option, the Texas Success Initiative (TSI) Assessment, which determines college readiness in the state, and exam proctoring, among other service such as SAT and ACT for high school students. Location: Delco Rm. 141. Phone: 936-261-4286

Office of Diagnostic Testing and Disability Services

As a federally-mandated educational support unit, the Office of Disability Services serves as the repository for confidential disability files for faculty, staff, and students. For persons with a disability, the Office develops individualized ADA letters of request for accommodations. Other services include: learning style inventories, awareness workshops, accessibility pathways, webinars, computer laboratory with adapted hardware and software, adapted furniture, proctoring of non-standardized test administrations, ASL interpreters, ALDs, digital recorders, Livescribe, Kurtzweil, and a comprehensive referral network across campus and the broader community. Location: Evans Hall Rm. 317. Phone: 936-261-3585

Veteran Affairs

Veterans Services works with student veterans, current military and military dependents to support their transition to the college environment and continued persistence to graduation. The Office coordinates and certifies benefits for both the G.I. Bill and the Texas Hazlewood Act. Location: Evans Hall Rm. 323. Phone: 936-261-3563

Office for Student Engagement

The Office for Student Engagement delivers comprehensive programs and services designed to meet the co-curricular needs of students. The Office implements inclusive and accessible programs and services that enhance student development through exposure to and participation in diverse and relevant social, cultural, intellectual, recreational, community service, leadership development and campus governance. Location: Memorial Student Center Rm. 221. Phone: 936-261-1340

Career Services

Career Services supports students through professional development, career readiness, and placement and employment assistance. The Office provides one-on-one career coaching, interview preparation, resume and letter writing, and career exploration workshops and seminars. Services are provided for students at the Northwest Houston Center and College of Nursing in the Medical Center twice a month or on a requested basis. Distance Learning students are encouraged to visit the Career Services website for information regarding services provided. Location: Evans Hall Rm. 217. Phone: 936-261-3570

University Rules and Procedures

Disability Statement (Also See Student Handbook):

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact Disability Services, in Evans Hall, Room 317, or call 936-261-3585/3.

Academic Misconduct (See Student Handbook):

You are expected to practice academic honesty in every aspect of this course and all other courses. Make sure you are familiar with your Student Handbook, especially the section on academic misconduct. Students who engage in academic misconduct are subject to university disciplinary procedures.

Forms of Academic Dishonesty:

1. Cheating: deception in which a student misrepresents that he/she has mastered information on an academic exercise that he/she has not mastered; giving or receiving aid unauthorized by the instructor on assignments or examinations.
2. Academic misconduct: tampering with grades or taking part in obtaining or distributing any part of a scheduled test.
3. Fabrication: use of invented information or falsified research.
4. Plagiarism: unacknowledged quotation and/or paraphrase of someone else's words, ideas, or data as one's own in work submitted for credit. Failure to identify information or essays from the Internet and submitting them as one's own work also constitutes plagiarism.

Nonacademic Misconduct (See Student Handbook)

The university respects the rights of instructors to teach and students to learn. Maintenance of these rights requires campus conditions that do not impede their exercise. Campus behavior that interferes with either (1) the instructor's ability to conduct the class, (2) the inability of other students to profit from the instructional program, or (3) campus behavior that interferes with the rights of others will not be tolerated. An individual engaging in such disruptive behavior may be subject to disciplinary action. Such incidents will be adjudicated by the Dean of Students under nonacademic procedures.

Sexual Misconduct (See Student Handbook):

Sexual harassment of students and employers at Prairie View A&M University is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Any member of the university community violating this policy will be subject to disciplinary action.

Title IX Statement

Prairie View A&M University (PVAMU) is committed to supporting students and complying with the Texas A&M University System non-discrimination policy. It seeks to establish an environment that is free of bias, discrimination, and harassment. If you experience an incident of sex- or gender-based discrimination, including sexual harassment, sexual assault or attempted sexual assault, we encourage you to report it. While you may talk to a faculty member about an incident of misconduct, the faculty member must report the basic facts of your experience to Ms. Alexia Taylor, PVAMU's Title IX Coordinator. If you would like to speak with someone who may be able to afford you privacy or confidentiality, there are individuals who can meet with you. The Title IX Coordinator is designated to handle inquiries regarding non-discrimination policies and can assist you with understanding your options and connect you with on- and off-campus resources. The Title IX Coordinator can be reached by phone at 936-261-2123 or in Suite 013 in the A.I. Thomas Administration Building.

Class Attendance Policy (See Catalog for Full Attendance Policy)

Prairie View A&M University requires regular class attendance. Attending all classes supports full academic development of each learner whether classes are taught with the instructor physically present or via distance learning technologies such as interactive video and/or internet.

Excessive absenteeism, whether excused or unexcused, may result in a student's course grade being reduced or in assignment of a grade of "F". Absences are accumulated beginning with the first day of class during regular semesters and summer terms. Each faculty member will include the University's attendance policy in each course syllabus.

Student Academic Appeals Process

Authority and responsibility for assigning grades to students rests with the faculty. However, in those instances where students believe that miscommunication, errors, or unfairness of any kind may have adversely affected the instructor's assessment of their academic performance, the student has a right to appeal by the procedure listed in the Undergraduate Catalog and by doing so within thirty days of receiving the grade or experiencing any other problematic academic event that prompted the complaint.

TECHNICAL CONSIDERATIONS

Minimum Recommended Hardware and Software:

- Intel PC or Laptop with Windows 7; Mac with OS X; Smartphone or iPad/Tablet with Wi-Fi
- High speed Internet access
- 8 GB Memory
- Hard drive with 320 GB storage space
- 15" monitor, 800x600, color or 16 bit
- Sound card w/speakers
- Microphone and recording software
- Keyboard & mouse
- Most current version of Google Chrome, Safari, Internet Explorer or Firefox

Note: Be sure to enable Java & pop-ups in the Web browser preferences

Participants should have a basic proficiency of the following computer skills:

- Sending and receiving email
- A working knowledge of the Internet
- Proficiency in Microsoft Word (or a program convertible to Word)
- Proficiency in the Acrobat PDF Reader

- Basic knowledge of Windows or Mac O.S.

Netiquette (online etiquette):

Students are expected to participate in all discussions and virtual classroom chats as directed. Students are to be respectful and courteous to others on discussions boards. Foul or abusive language will not be tolerated.

Technical Support:

Students should go to <https://mypassword.pvamu.edu/> if they have password issues. The page will provide instructions for resetting passwords and contact information if login issues persist. For other technical questions regarding eCourses, call the Office of Distance Learning at 936-261-3283

Communication Expectations and Standards:

Emails or discussion postings will receive a response from the instructor, usually in less than 48 hours. Urgent emails should be marked as such. Check regularly for responses.

Discussion Requirement:

Online courses often require minimal to no face-to-face meetings. However, conversations about the readings, lectures, materials, and other aspects of the course can take place in a seminar fashion. This will be accomplished by the use of the discussion board. The exact use of discussion will be determined by the instructor.

It is strongly suggested that students type their discussion postings in a word processing application and save it to their PC or a removable drive before posting to the discussion board. This is important for two reasons: 1) If for some reason your discussion responses are lost in your online course, you will have another copy; 2) Grammatical errors can be greatly minimized by the use of the spell-and-grammar check functions in word processing applications. Once the post(s) have been typed and corrected in the word processing application, it/they should be copied and pasted to the discussion board.

Academic Calendar Spring 2019 – Full Term

The Prairie View A&M Academic Calendar is subject to change

Jan 10 - Jan 11 Thurs through Fri	Regular Registration Period	Feb 06 Wed	Tuition payment deadline is 5:00 p.m. for all students who late registered and add/drop for spring semester
Jan 14 Mon	First Class Day	Feb 11 Mon	20th class day
Jan 14 Mon	Tuition payment deadline is 5:00 p.m. for all students who registered for the spring semester	Feb 12 - Apr 30 Tues through Tues	Submit application for Tuition Rebate for spring graduation undergraduate candidates
Jan 14 - Jan 16 Mon through Wed	Late registration for the spring semester for all students who have not yet registered. To complete registration, students must pay by 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 6.	Mar 07 - Mar 09 Thurs through Sat	Mid-semester examination
Jan 14 - Jan 18 Mon through Fri	Add/Drop for all students for the spring semester. Tuition payment for all students who add/drop for spring must pay by 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 6.	Mar 11 - Mar 16 Mon through Sat	Spring Break (University Closed 3/15/2019)
Jan 21 Mon	Dr. Martin Luther King Day (University Closed)	Mar 18 Mon	Class resumes
Jan 22 Tues	Class resumes	Mar 19 Tues	60% of Term
Jan 30 Wed	12th Class Day (Census Date)	Mar 19 Tues	Mid-semester grades due by 11:59 p.m.
Jan 30 Wed	Last day to drop/withdraw from course(s) without academic record. A financial record will still exist.	Mar 27 Wed	Founders Day/Honors Convocation
Jan 31 - Mar 29 Thurs through Fri	Withdrawal from course(s) with record ("W")	Mar 27 Wed	Last day to apply for spring graduation (ceremony participation)
		Mar 28 - Apr 30 Thurs through Tues	Apply for degree conferral only for spring graduation (no ceremony participation or name listed in program)
		Mar 29 Fri	Last day for withdrawal from course(s) with

Apr 08 - Apr 12 Mon through Fri	record ("W") Priority registration for continuing students for summer and fall semesters Priority Registration Schedule
Apr 15 - May 24 Mon through Fri	Pre-registration for all students for the summer and fall semester
Apr 19 Fri	Good Friday (Student Holiday)
Apr 29 - Apr 30 Mon through Tues	Course Review Days (Classes must convene and instructors will prepare students for final exams)
Apr 30 Tues	Last day to withdraw from the university with record
Apr 30 Tues	Last day to apply for degree conferral only for spring graduation (no ceremony participation)

Apr 30 Tues	or name listed in program) Last day to submit application for Tuition Rebate for spring graduation undergraduate candidates
Apr 30 Tues	Last Class Day
May 01 - May 07 Wed through Tues	Final Examinations
May 09 Thurs	Final grades due for graduation candidates by Noon
May 11 Sat	Spring Commencement
May 14 Tues	Final grades due for all other students by 11.59 p.m.

FINAL EXAM SCHEDULE SPRING 2019 SEMESTER EXAM WEEK

TIMES	Wednesday May 1	Thursday May 2	Friday May 3	Saturday May 4	Monday May 6	Tuesday May 7
8:00am-10:00am	M-W-F, 8:00 am	TU-THUR, 8:00 am	M-W-F, 9:00 am	SAT, 8:00 am	M-W-F, 10:00 am	TU-THUR, 9:30 am
10:30am-12:30pm	M-W-F, 11:00 am	TU-THUR, 11:00 am	M-W-F, 12:00 pm	SAT, 11:00 am	M-W-F, 1:00 pm	TU-THUR, 12:30 pm
1:30pm-3:30pm	M-W-F, 2:00 pm	TU-THUR, 2:00 pm	M-W-F, 3:00 pm	SAT, 2:00 pm	M-W-F, 4:00 pm	TU-THUR, 3:30 pm
4:00pm-6:00pm	M-W-F, 5:00 pm	TU-THUR, 5:00 pm	M-W-F, 6:00 pm	COMMON EXAM	COMMON EXAM	COMMON EXAM
6:30pm-8:30pm	COMMON EXAM	COMMON EXAM	COMMON EXAM	COMMON EXAM	COMMON EXAM	COMMON EXAM

NOTES:

1. All NROTC and AROTC examinations will be scheduled by the professors of NROTC and AROTC during this final exam period.
2. All HEALTH AND HUMAN PERFORMANCE practice examinations will be scheduled by the head of the Department of Health and Human Performance during this final exam period.
3. Instructors should contact the Office of the Registrar as soon as possible at the beginning of the semester to schedule rooms for common exams.
4. Final Exam schedules for 8-week sessions will follow the Academic Calendar.