

Protein Engineering

CHEN E4800, Spring 2008

Tuesdays 1:00pm-3:50pm

826 Mudd

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Office Hours:

Tues 11:00am-12:00pm, or by Appointment.

Prerequisites: CHEN E4230 Reactor Design and Control or equivalent. May be taken concurrently, or by permission.

Course Description: Course is aimed at senior undergraduate and graduate students. Introduces fundamental tools and techniques currently used to engineer protein molecules. Covers the methods used to analyze the impact of these alterations on different protein functions with specific emphasis on enzymatic catalysis. Uses case studies to reinforce the concepts covered, as well as to demonstrate the wide impact of protein engineering research. Applies basic concepts in the chemical engineering curriculum (reaction kinetics, mathematical modeling, thermodynamics) to specific approaches utilized in protein engineering.

Course Significance: Protein engineering is a young and exciting interdisciplinary field where engineering principles and practices are utilized to generate molecules with novel properties. The applications of this technology can be found in diverse areas including: drug discovery, industrial chemical synthesis, transgenic plant research, and nanotechnology. Chemical engineers will continue to contribute significantly to this important discipline. As the worldwide impact of biotechnology increases, it is important to continually offer new and cutting edge instruction in these subject areas.

Textbook:

Witford, David *Proteins, Structure and Function* Wiley 2005

Text is not required, but it is strongly recommended. Manuscripts will be used for assigned readings. A general biochemistry book, such as Stryer, or Garrett and Grisham, will be a valuable resource throughout the semester.

Branden, Carl & John Tooze *Introduction to Protein Structure, 2nd Ed* Garland 1999

Also recommended, and many of the images used in the lectures are from this book

Molecular Modeling Kit:

You will be required to purchase the HGS Biochemistry Molecular Model 5000 Bio-Organic Set. These kits are available at the bookstore, and we will use them to build peptide and protein models.

Lecture Notes:

Lectures will be presented using Power Point. The lecture files will be placed on the Courseworks website at least 24 hours before the lecture.

Grading:

Homework	10%
Midterm exam	25%
Final exam	40%
Individual Project	25%

Other Points:

- Homework will be due the week after it is assigned. Late homework will receive a 20% deduction.
- Midterm and final exams will be open book and open notes.
- An individual project will be assigned, and written reports will be due at the end of the semester. Additional information will be provided at a later in the semester.
- Courseworks system will be used for course maintenance and information dissemination.

Approximate weekly schedule

Week	Topic	Whitford Chapters
1 1/22	Introduction	1,2,6
2 1/29	Protein structure and folding	2,3,4,5,10,11
3 2/5	Proteins structure modeling	3
4 2/12	Protein expression and purification	8,9
5 2/19	Enzyme catalysis and kinetics	7
6 2/26	Enzyme catalysis and kinetics	7
7 3/4	Methods of protein modification	9
8 3/11	Midterm Spring Break	
9 3/25	Other modifications and de novo design	8
10 4/1	Metabolic engineering	
11 4/8	Peptide engineering and nanotechnology	
12 4/15	Other biocatalysis	
13 4/22	Ethics, economics	
14 4/29	Other topics, Final review	
15 TBA	Final Exam	