ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY

You are taking this course in order to acquire and demonstrate knowledge, skills, and experience in the field of biology. Discussing the course content and completing the assignments helps you do this; copying someone else's work does not.

Plagiarism (presenting the work of others as if it were your own, that is without appropriate attribution) is a violation of both scientific ethics and WPI's academic honesty policy. For complete details on appropriate citation formats and rules, consult the BB Department's Guide to Successful BB/BBT Projects, at http://www.wpi.edu/Academics/Depts/Bio/Resources/. Here are some general guidelines:

General Policies:

- All the rules of WPI's Academic Honesty Policy (http://www.wpi.edu/Pubs/Policies/Judicial/sect5.html) are in effect.
- If you claim that you did some work, you actually had to do the work. If it has your name on it, by default you are automatically claiming that you did the work.
- Please note the following important policy on individually graded assignments (quizzes, in-class evaluation, homework). Unless explicitly stated otherwise, cooperation in preparation is allowed and encouraged (e.g. studying for quizzes, discussing the homework). However, the production of the final work (e.g. taking the quiz, writing up the homework) is expected to be an INDIVIDUAL effort.
- If you copy someone else's work, you MUST acknowledge this in writing. This includes, for example, material you find in a book and material you find on the Internet.
- Even if you acknowledge copying someone else's work, the VAST MAJORITY of what you turn in for any assignment must be your own work.
- Violating the Academic Honesty Policy can have severe consequences, from receiving a zero for the assignment, receiving an NR for the entire course, or being suspended or expelled from WPI. So don't do it! You are better off NOT turning in an assignment than being caught cheating.

Examples of Things You Can Do:
- Study together for quizzes.
- Discuss the meaning of an assignment with any other individual, including another student in the course.
- Discuss how to accomplish an assignment with any other individual, including another student in the course.
- Find material relating to an assignment in any book, journal, or on the Internet.
- Use ideas or BRIEF quotes from material you have read, PROPERLY CITED (see BB Department's Guide to Successful BB/BBT Projects, at http://www.wpi.edu/Academics/Depts/Bio/Resources/), in your written work.

Examples of Things You Are Not Allowed To Do (Even if You Acknowledge that You Did It):
• Copy all or a portion of someone else’s assignment, from this term or from previous terms. (Note: Assignments in this course change considerably from year to year; trying to find a previous year’s assignment to copy is a waste of time.)

• Paraphrase information you found in a printed source, or on the Web, without citing its source.

• Copy verbatim information you found in a printed source, or on the Web, without both including it in quotation marks and citing its source.

**Examples of Things You Should Not Do:**

• Give someone a printed copy of your assignment.

• Send someone an electronic copy of your assignment.

**Note:** The preceding lists are not exhaustive. You must obey both the letter AND the spirit of the policy.