

# Course Syllabus

[Jump to Today](#)

## IB 35 AC: Human Biological Variation FALL 2019

Lecture is held on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 12-1pm in 150 Wheeler.

Discussion sections are held on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday.

All discussion sections meet in Valley Life Sciences Bldg. Room 1007.

### Faculty Instructor:

**Professor Leslea J. Hlusko** (<http://www.lesleahlusko.org/>), Department of Integrative Biology

Office: 5085 Valley Life Sciences Building

Office Hours: Wednesdays 1:30-2:30pm and Thursdays 8:30-9:30am, or by appointment

### Graduate Student Instructors:

**Marianne Brasil**, Integrative Biology

Office Hours: Mondays 11am-12pm, 3003 Valley Life Sciences Building

**Tara Lepore**, Integrative Biology

Office Hours: Mondays 11am-12pm, 3003 Valley Life Sciences Building

**David Manahan**, Integrative Biology

Office Hours: Thursdays 2-3pm, 3003 Valley Life Sciences Building

**Nasima Mayer**, Endocrinology

Office Hours: Mondays 1-2pm, 3003 Valley Life Sciences Building

**Anna Scharnagl**, Integrative Biology

Office Hours: Tuesdays 11-12pm, 3003 Valley Life Sciences Building

**Nicholas Spano**, Integrative Biology

Office Hours: Wednesdays 4-5pm, 3003 Valley Life Sciences Building

**Daniel Wait**, Integrative Biology

Office Hours: Tuesdays 10-11am, 3003 Valley Life Sciences Building

### Course email address:

ib35ac@berkeley.edu

### Course Description:

This course addresses modern human biological variation from historical, comparative, evolutionary, biomedical, and cultural perspectives. It is designed to introduce students to the fundamentals of comparative biology, evolutionary theory, and genetics.

### Prerequisites:

There are no prerequisites for this course. All majors are welcome.

### Course Format:

This is a 4-unit lecture course with discussion section. Lectures will be held three times a week for a total of 3 hours, and students will participate in the one-hour discussion section each week in which they are enrolled.

### Grading:

Performance in the course will be assessed by dividing the number of points earned by the total possible points. There will be 350 possible points, broken-down by assignment as follows:

3 quizzes*, 25 points each	75 points
10 spot assignments**, 5 points each	50 points
Plagiarism tutorial	25 points
Discussion sections***, 10 points each	100 points
Final paper	100 points

*\*all quizzes will be administered through bCourses. There will be a 48-hour time window during which you will have 3 hours to take the quiz once you start it. There are four quizzes in total. We will only count your best three scores towards your final grade. Your lowest quiz score will be dropped. Quiz dates are noted on the syllabus.*

*\*\*all spot assignments will be administered during class. These are unannounced in-class activities designed to help you engage with complicated material. There will be 12-14 spot assignments given; your best 10 scores will be counted towards your final grade.*

*\*\*\*There are 11 discussion sections. Each discussion section has an activity that is worth 10 points. We will only count your best 10 scores towards your final grade. Your lowest discussion section score will be dropped.*

Final grades will be calculated as the total number of points earned divided by the total possible (350). Final grades are determined following the default UC Berkeley categories established on bCourses, which are:

A	100%	to 94.0%
A-	< 94.0%	to 90.0%

B+	< 90.0%	to 87.0%
B	< 87.0%	to 84.0%
B-	< 84.0%	to 80.0%
C+	< 80.0%	to 77.0%
C	< 77.0%	to 74.0%
C-	< 74.0%	to 70.0%
D+	< 70.0%	to 67.0%
D	< 67.0%	to 64.0%
D-	< 64.0%	to 61.0%
F	< 61.0%	to 0.0%

### The student community at UC Berkeley has adopted the following Honor Code:

*“As a member of the UC Berkeley community, I act with honesty, integrity, and respect for others.”*

The expectation is that you will adhere to this code, as your instructors pledge to do as well. For more information, please visit this website: <http://asuc.org/honorcode/index.php>  
(<http://asuc.org/honorcode/index.php>)

### Policy on UC Berkeley’s Code of Student Conduct:

All students are expected to follow the University of California at Berkeley’s Campus Code of Student Conduct, as is published at <http://sa.berkeley.edu/code-of-conduct> (<http://sa.berkeley.edu/code-of-conduct>). Cheating, plagiarism, or any other form of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated (102.01).

### Policy on plagiarism:

In academia, ideas are our commodity. Taking direct text, ideas, data, or results from someone else’s work without properly giving credit is essentially stealing. Representing them as your own is unacceptable in a university and we take it very seriously here at UC Berkeley. We will pursue disciplinary action against students who plagiarize in this class. If you are unfamiliar with plagiarism, please see the tutorial on the Biosciences Library website about citations generally (<https://guides.lib.berkeley.edu/c.php?g=444859&p=3081992>) (<https://guides.lib.berkeley.edu/c.php?g=444859&p=3081992>) and this resource on

plagiarism specifically (<https://libguides.mit.edu/citing#plagiarism> (<https://libguides.mit.edu/citing#plagiarism>)).

### Required text:

Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks, by Rebecca Skloot ISBN 978-1-4000-5218-9

### Course website:

There is a website for the course available to enrolled students through bCourses at <https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/>. Abbreviated class slides will be posted by 8pm the night before each class meeting. Reading assignments and required readings outside of the required texts will be posted on bCourses (each lecture has its own "page" with this information accessed through the Modules section of the site). Important announcements related to the course will be posted on the bCourses site. It is your responsibility to check this site. You can sign up to receive announcements by email or get in the habit of checking the site regularly.

### Email policy:

In order to keep class queries a priority, we have established a class-specific email address. The instructors will respond to emails within 24 hours of receipt from 8am on Monday through 5pm on Friday (Friday emails will receive a reply on Monday). Although email is available to you 24 hours a day 7 days a week, we, unfortunately, cannot be. Please keep this in mind and plan ahead as much as possible.

All email related to the class must go through the [IB35AC@BERKELEY.EDU](mailto:IB35AC@BERKELEY.EDU) (<mailto:IB35AC@BERKELEY.EDU>) address. Given the vast amount of research and administrative-related email correspondence that your instructors face on a daily basis, WE CANNOT GUARANTEE A TIMELY REPLY IF YOU EMAIL PROF. HLUSSKO OR THE GSIs DIRECTLY.

Please keep in mind that any of the GSIs and/or Prof. Hlusko can all read email sent to [ib35ac@berkeley.edu](mailto:ib35ac@berkeley.edu) (<mailto:ib35ac@berkeley.edu>). **Please indicate your GSI in the subject line** so that the subject of your email reads something like this: "GSI Marianne: missed section." If you would like to discuss a confidential issue, please write to [ib35ac@berkeley.edu](mailto:ib35ac@berkeley.edu) (<mailto:ib35ac@berkeley.edu>) to request a meeting or set up a meeting in person.

You must sign your email with the official name you use with the University and/or use your email address registered with the University. If we cannot tell that you are officially a student at Berkeley and enrolled in IB35ac this semester, we will not reply to your email. THIS INCLUDES MESSAGES SENT FROM CELL PHONES.

Please use proper grammar and complete sentences so that your request is clearly understandable.

### Policy on accommodation of religious holidays and other scheduling conflicts:

In compliance with Education code, Section 92640(a), it is the official policy of the University of California at Berkeley to permit any student to undergo a test or examination, without penalty, at a time when that activity

would not violate the student's religious creed, unless administering the examination at an alternative time would impose an undue hardship which could not reasonably have been avoided.

All deadlines and exam dates are noted on this syllabus. We have tried to avoid all major religious holidays, but given how diverse Berkeley's community is, we may have unintentionally missed a date that is important to you. It is your responsibility to note any conflicts with exams and due dates and let the instructor or GSIs know. We are happy to figure out an accommodation that will work. If you have other scheduling conflicts, please see the guidelines at: [http://academic-senate.berkeley.edu/sites/default/files/recommendations-reports/guidelines\\_acadschedconflicts\\_july2006.pdf](http://academic-senate.berkeley.edu/sites/default/files/recommendations-reports/guidelines_acadschedconflicts_july2006.pdf) ([http://academic-senate.berkeley.edu/sites/default/files/recommendations-reports/guidelines\\_acadschedconflicts\\_july2006.pdf](http://academic-senate.berkeley.edu/sites/default/files/recommendations-reports/guidelines_acadschedconflicts_july2006.pdf)).

### **Policy on make-ups:**

We will not administer make-up quizzes or other assignments. There are 4 quizzes and only 3 count towards your final grade. Your lowest score will be dropped. This policy is designed to easily absorb the unexpected illnesses or other events that may stand in your way of taking one of the quizzes. Because you may need to miss a quiz unexpectedly, do not just "take a break" and miss one of the quizzes intentionally. Please contact us if your situation is not easily accommodated in this policy.

### **Policy on turning in assignments late:**

Only a documented illness or some other unforeseeable emergency will allow us to grant you a later due date than what is posted on this syllabus for your discussion section assignments or final essay. Anticipated events do not count as acceptable reasons for turning in assignments late (even if it is a University-approved one), as you can and should plan ahead and turn in assignments early.

### **Policy on attendance for lecture:**

We do not enforce attendance but remind you that 50 points of your final grade (14%) will derive from unannounced in-lecture activities ("spot assignments"). In addition, quiz content will primarily derive from lectures and discussion sections. The reading material is additional information that supplements but does not repeat what is presented in class. You are responsible for both. It is *strongly* recommended that you do not skip the lectures.

### **Policy on attendance for discussion section:**

Again, we do not enforce attendance. However, there will be an activity in each section worth 10 points of your final grade. There are 11 formal discussion section meetings. We will only count your 10 best scores. Your lowest section score will be dropped, for a maximum total discussion section score of 100. Another way to think of it is that each section meeting is worth about 3% of your final grade outside of the pedagogical value. Material presented in section will be included on the quizzes. It is *strongly* recommended that you do not skip your discussion section.

### **Policy on laptop use in class:**

Laptops and other electronic devices are generally not to be used in lecture or in discussion sections. Research repeatedly shows that multitasking is detrimental to the cognitive work required in college. For an overview of this research, see: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/answer-sheet/wp/2014/09/25/why-a-leading-professor-of-new-media-just-banned-technology-use-in-class/> (<http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/answer-sheet/wp/2014/09/25/why-a-leading-professor-of-new-media-just-banned-technology-use-in-class/>). Disengage from the virtual world for the short amount of time that you are in the IB35ac environment.

That said, there are some instances when students have strong reasons to use their laptops in class. We would appreciate if you would check in with one of the instructors if you plan on using your laptop, and we ask that laptop users cluster in the front left of the lecture hall (to Prof. Hlusko's right, your left). This will help the rest of the students in the class from being distracted by the screens.

### **Policy on cell phones:**

All cell phones need to be silenced during class. We understand that there may be occasional situations in which you need to receive or send an emergency text, but keep in mind that excessive texting or other use of your phones is distracting to other people in the class. If your cell phone activity becomes disruptive, you will be asked to leave the class.

### **Policy on students with learning disabilities:**

We automatically receive notice about accommodations for students who have those records on file with DSP. While a GSI will be in touch with you individually to make sure everything is set up appropriately for you, we ask that you also be proactive with us and check-in. If you do not have your accommodations arranged yet through DSP, please do so as soon as possible.
















### **Policy on emergency and traumatic situations:**




















In a class this size, every year a handful of students experience some type of traumatic life event. If you are one of these unfortunate students this year, please know that the University is here for you. First and foremost, we care about you as a person. Your classwork comes second.

The expertise of our instructional team is focused on the biological sciences, but know that we are here to help direct you towards the professionals on campus who are trained to help in times of duress. Additionally, we will work with you to make sure you can complete the course when you are better positioned to learn.

If you find yourself facing a traumatic situation, an important first place to turn is the Counseling and Psychological Services program (<https://uhs.berkeley.edu/counseling> (<https://uhs.berkeley.edu/counseling>)). There are numerous options for how to accommodate the academic side of your life when you are confronting trauma, but we can only make this happen if we know that you are in an emergency situation. Please do not hesitate to reach out for assistance. We are here to help you get the help you need to get well and/or stay healthy, and to make sure you can finish the course when you are in a better situation and can do so meaningfully.

# Course Summary:

Date	Details	
Sun Sep 22, 2019	 <a href="https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986844">Quiz 1</a> <a href="https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986844">https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986844</a>	due by 11:59pm
Thu Oct 17, 2019	 <a href="https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986847">Quiz 2</a> <a href="https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986847">https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986847</a>	due by 11:59pm
Sun Nov 10, 2019	 <a href="https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986850">Quiz 3</a> <a href="https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986850">https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986850</a>	due by 11:59pm
Fri Nov 15, 2019	 <a href="https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/8003925">Plagiarism Tutorial</a> <a href="https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/8003925">https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/8003925</a>	due by 11:59pm
Sun Dec 8, 2019	 <a href="https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986848">Quiz 4</a> <a href="https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986848">https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986848</a>	due by 11:59pm
Mon Dec 9, 2019	 <a href="https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986871">Final Paper Submission Form</a> <a href="https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986871">https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986871</a>	due by 11:59pm
Tue Dec 10, 2019	 <a href="https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986869">Final Paper - Form for Late Submissions (December 10th, 12am until 2am)</a> <a href="https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986869">https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986869</a>	due by 2am
	 <a href="https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986867">Final Paper - Form for very late submissions (December 10th 2:01am to 11:59pm)</a> <a href="https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986867">https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986867</a>	due by 12pm
	 <a href="https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986853">Discussion 10: Wikipedia Project - Article Updates Published</a> <a href="https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986853">https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986853</a>	
	 <a href="https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986855">Discussion 1: Concepts of evolution</a> <a href="https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986855">https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986855</a>	
	 <a href="https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986856">Discussion 2: Human cranial variation</a> <a href="https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986856">https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986856</a>	
	 <a href="https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986857">Discussion 3: Genetics</a> <a href="https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986857">https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986857</a>	
	 <a href="https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986858">Discussion 4: Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks - Topic 1</a> <a href="https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986858">https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986858</a>	
	 <a href="https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986859">Discussion 5: Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks - Topic 2</a> <a href="https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986859">https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986859</a>	
	 <a href="https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986860">Discussion 6: Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks - Topic 3</a> <a href="https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986860">https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986860</a>	

Date	Details
	 <b><u><a href="https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986862">Discussion 7: That Sugar Film</a></u></b> ( <a href="https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986862">https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986862</a> )
	 <b><u><a href="https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986863">Discussion 8: Wikipedia Project - Introduction</a></u></b> ( <a href="https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986863">https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986863</a> )
	 <b><u><a href="https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986864">Discussion 9: Wikipedia Project - Research</a></u></b> ( <a href="https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986864">https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986864</a> )
	 <b><u><a href="https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/8043137">Extra credit #1: GSI evaluation (2 pts)</a></u></b> ( <a href="https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/8043137">https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/8043137</a> )
	 <b><u><a href="https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/8043139">Extra credit #2: Lecture evaluation (3 pts)</a></u></b> ( <a href="https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/8043139">https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/8043139</a> )
	 <b><u><a href="https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/8040639">Quiz 2 Adjustment</a></u></b> ( <a href="https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/8040639">https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/8040639</a> )
	 <b><u><a href="https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986875">Spot assignment 1</a></u></b> ( <a href="https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986875">https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986875</a> )
	 <b><u><a href="https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986876">Spot assignment 10</a></u></b> ( <a href="https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986876">https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986876</a> )
	 <b><u><a href="https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986877">Spot assignment 11</a></u></b> ( <a href="https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986877">https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986877</a> )
	 <b><u><a href="https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/8003926">Spot assignment 12</a></u></b> ( <a href="https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/8003926">https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/8003926</a> )
	 <b><u><a href="https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/8040490">Spot assignment 13</a></u></b> ( <a href="https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/8040490">https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/8040490</a> )
	 <b><u><a href="https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986878">Spot assignment 2</a></u></b> ( <a href="https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986878">https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986878</a> )
	 <b><u><a href="https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986879">Spot assignment 3</a></u></b> ( <a href="https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986879">https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986879</a> )
	 <b><u><a href="https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986880">Spot assignment 4</a></u></b> ( <a href="https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986880">https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986880</a> )
	 <b><u><a href="https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986881">Spot assignment 5</a></u></b> ( <a href="https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986881">https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986881</a> )
	 <b><u><a href="https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986882">Spot assignment 6</a></u></b> ( <a href="https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986882">https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986882</a> )
	 <b><u><a href="https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986883">Spot assignment 7</a></u></b> ( <a href="https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986883">https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986883</a> )
	 <b><u><a href="https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986884">Spot assignment 8</a></u></b> ( <a href="https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986884">https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986884</a> )
	 <b><u><a href="https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986885">Spot assignment 9</a></u></b> ( <a href="https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986885">https://bcourses.berkeley.edu/courses/1482295/assignments/7986885</a> )



