# 2021:21/FA: 2021 Fall Evaluations 21/FA (2021)

Agnes Scott College Agnes Scott

Course: BIO-111 P2 - Integrative Bio II--POST-BACC Department: BIOL

Responsible

Faculty: Jennifer Larimore

**Responses / Expected:** 11 / 17 (64.71%)

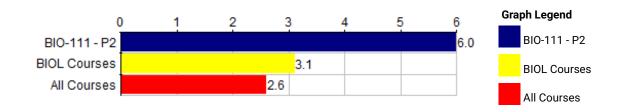
**6.0** Class year (11 responses)

Overall Mean:

**6.0** Strong Disagreement to Strong Agree (99 responses)

**4.0** unsatisfactory to excellent (22 responses)

**1.9** Reason for taking course (9 responses)



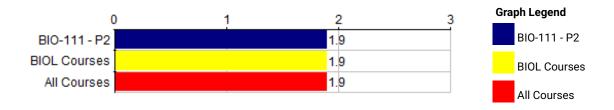
BIO-111 - P2 --- Survey Comparisons ---**Student Demographics BIOL** Responses Course ΑII **Student Year/Course Selection** Std Pct FY S J S GRA Mean Med. Mode Mean Mean Dev Rnk Rnk Q1 What is your class year? 6.0 241 3.1 2.1K 2.6 98

 $\textbf{Responses:} \ [\textbf{FY}] \ \ \text{first year=1} \ \ [\textbf{S}] \ \ \text{sophomore=2} \ \ [\textbf{J}] \ \ \text{junior=3} \ \ [\textbf{S}] \ \ \text{senior=4} \ \ [\textbf{GRA}] \ \ \text{GRAD=5} \ \ [\textbf{P}] \ \ \text{PBPM=6}$ 

Pct Rnk: Percentile Rank (100 is best, calculated vs. precise Mean)

Q2 - If your class year is other, please specify.

Response Rate: No participants responded to this question. (0 of 11)



Student Demographics Student Year/Course Selection	BIO-111 - P2									Survey Comparisons					
	Responses				Course				BIOL				All		
	ADR	AMR	ΑE	N	Mean	Med.	Mode	Std Dev	N	Mean	Pct Rnk	N	Mean	Pct Rnk	
Q3 I took this course as:	1	8	0	9	1.9	2	2	.31	229	1.9	26	2K	1.9	31	

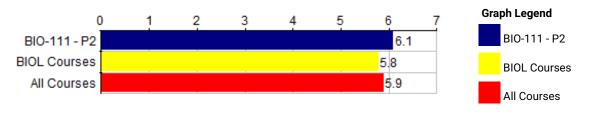
Responses: [ADR] a distributional requirement=1 [AMR] a major/minor requirement=2 [AE] an elective=3

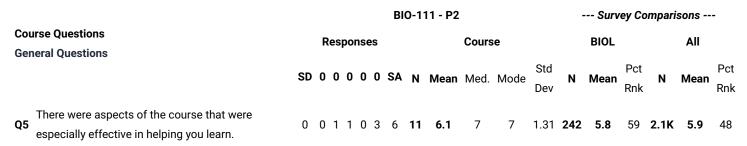
Pct Rnk: Percentile Rank (100 is best, calculated vs. precise Mean)

Q4 - If the reason you took the course is other, please explain.

Response Rate: 18.18% (2 of 11)

- 1 Pre-med requisite
- 2 PBPM requirement





Responses: [SD] Strongly Disagree=1 [0] 0=2 [0] 0=3 [0] 0=4 [0] 0=5 [0] 0=6 [SA] Strongly Agree=7

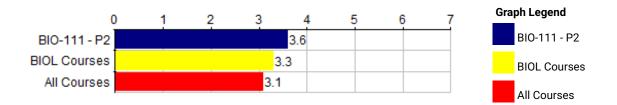
Pct Rnk: Percentile Rank (100 is best, calculated vs. precise Mean)

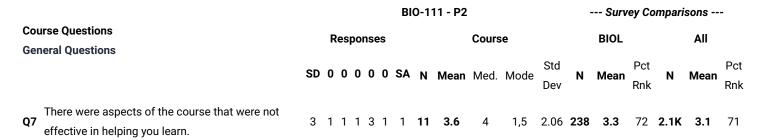
# Q6 - Please explain or comment on the question above .

Response Rate: 27.27% (3 of 11)

- The study guides were helpful in learning material. I enjoyed doing them as part of small groups as well as when we talked through some questions/answers as a class.
- Study guides were effective. The guides from Integrative Bio I were more useful as ungraded study aids with full vocabulary sections and more open-ended questions.
  - I described this class to my family and friends as "teach yourself biology from a book". Regular tests and study guides were motivating, but they were not of the highest quality and so it's difficult to call them especially effective. For one thing, the answers were frequently incorrect; after every test (and several study guides) we had to point out that the answer marked as correct on the test directly contradicted our book.
- One time, an answer we had previously corrected on a study guide showed up again on a test and the correct answer was \*still\* marked as wrong.

I decided pretty early on to treat this as a trial for medical school, where I know a lot of courses boil down to '





**Responses:** [SD] Strongly Disagree=1 [0] 0=2 [0] 0=3 [0] 0=4 [0] 0=5 [0] 0=6 [SA] Strongly Agree=7

Pct Rnk: Percentile Rank (100 is best, calculated vs. precise Mean)

# Q8 - Please explain or comment on the question above.

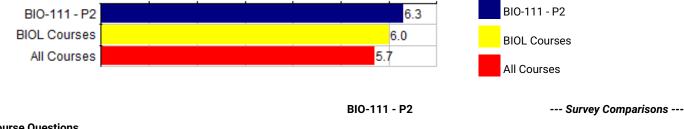
Response Rate: 36.36% (4 of 11)

Study guides in general were helpful, but the articles that were chosen were not always relevant. I think more thought could have gone into picking articles that are current.

Prerecorded lectures were dry, and basically sounded like Dr. Larimore was reading directly from a textbook. Class time was pointless: it was too loud to actually get any work done, and we spent at least half of each class chatting with Dr. Larimore about some completely unrelated subject. Most of the time, Dr. Larimore did not know the answer to questions we had about the material, which meant class time was not even useful for clarifying information we had read about.

Again, I (and most of my classmates) self-taught ourselves this course from a combination of the textbook and youtube videos.

- Lastly, the paper analyses that were part of every study guide \*could\* have been a learning experience; there is real value in reading scientific literature that is way above your head, and figuring out what you do and don't understand. We were, however, never really evaluated on the validity of our interpretations: many of the questions were along the lines of "name all the techniques used in this study", which didn't require us to understand any of them. If you are going to have students read literature that is above their heads, it's really necessary to have some sort of feedback on whether they understand things.
- **3** Most of the articles seemed more of a chore then a learning mechanism.
- 4 Class time was not effectively utilized.



**Course Questions BIOL** Αll Responses Course **General Questions** Pct SD 0 0 0 0 0 SA Mean Med. Mode Mean Mean Dev Rnk Q9 This course was intellectually challenging. 0 0 0 2 0 2 7 11 6.3 7 7 1.14 **241** 76 2.1K 69 6.0

Responses: [SD] Strongly Disagree=1 [0] 0=2 [0] 0=3 [0] 0=4 [0] 0=5 [0] 0=6 [SA] Strongly Agree=7

Pct Rnk: Percentile Rank (100 is best, calculated vs. precise Mean)

**Graph Legend** 

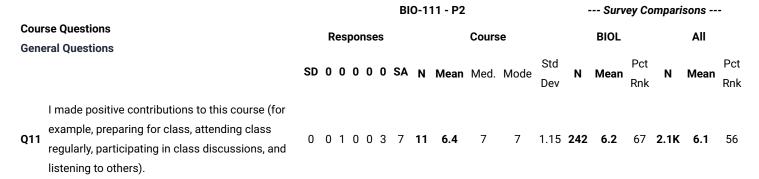
# Q10 - Please explain or comment on the question above.

**Response Rate: 27.27% (3 of 11)** 

This is the part about this course that was really devastating: as future physicians, biology is an incredibly important subject. For the many students without a science background, teaching ourselves biology was actually really difficult. The test questions were always highly specific and detail oriented, and we were never given information on what we should prioritize, or what we would be tested on.

- 2 The course content was mostly based on memorization rather than systematic learning and understanding.
- Overall the class was challenging but manageable if you prepared for class (completed the reading, watched videos) and utilized classroom resources (peers and instructor).



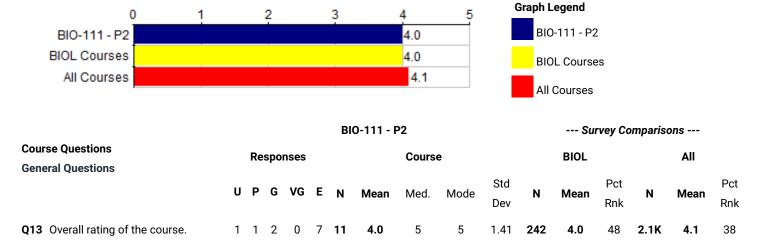


Responses: [SD] Strongly Disagree=1 [0] 0=2 [0] 0=3 [0] 0=4 [0] 0=5 [0] 0=6 [SA] Strongly Agree=7

Pct Rnk: Percentile Rank (100 is best, calculated vs. precise Mean)

Q12 - Please explain or comment on the question above.

Response Rate: No participants responded to this question. (0 of 11)



Responses: [U] unsatisfactory=1 [P] poor=2 [G] good=3 [VG] very good=4 [E] excellent=5

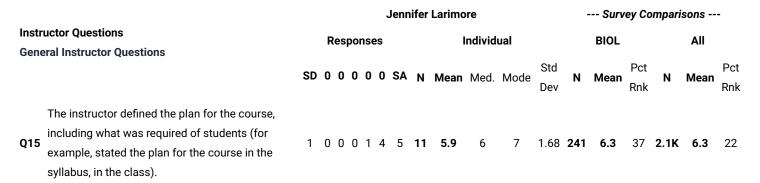
Pct Rnk: Percentile Rank (100 is best, calculated vs. precise Mean)

# Q14 - Please explain or comment on the question above.

Response Rate: 36.36% (4 of 11)

- 1 Overall, could have had a more effective structure to learning Biology. Perhaps through more in class discussion.
  - If a potential student asked me about Agnes Scott's post-bacc-premed program, I would suggest they look elsewhere. Unless a student comes in with a strong biology background, or is already skilled at self-teaching, they will not be taught anything about biology by Agnes Scott college.
- Self-teaching is actually a good skill for pre-med students to have. Had Dr. Larimore decided (ahead of time) that she wanted to run the course that way, it could have worked- but we would still need support. Since we weren't being taught biology (I cannot stress how much the lectures felt like someone reading a textbook), could we instead learn methods for self-study? Lastly, I didn't even feel like I had someone I could ask biology questions of- Dr. Larimore only knew the answer to questions about a small range of neuro issues.
- Great course! Dr. Larimore did a great job structuring the course. She provided support when needed but let us truly learn and apply this
- 3 information on our own. The study guides were great and very useful for testing our knowledge on each chapter. The article analysis was also helpful because we learned to pull important information from complex articles.
- 4 Covered necessary content.





**Responses:** [SD] Strongly Disagree=1 [0] 0=2 [0] 0=3 [0] 0=4 [0] 0=5 [0] 0=6 [SA] Strongly Agree=7

Pct Rnk: Percentile Rank (100 is best, calculated vs. precise Mean)

# Q16 - Please explain or comment on the question above.

Faculty: Jennifer Larimore

Response Rate: 27.27% (3 of 11)

- 1 The final project was a little unclear.
- 2 Syllabus was changed a few times, but overall was properly explained.

I want to start this review by saying that I really, really \*like\* Dr. Larimore as a person. She is supportive and kind, and I think I would really enjoy being her colleague, friend or neighbor. This evaluation isn't coming from a place of dislike; I genuinely want better for our next premed cohort.

Dr. Larimore's lack of a defined plan can be exemplified in what happened right before our first test. We had an entire assignment in which we answered questions about the syllabus, which said (very clearly) that our exams were going to be open note. Less than two days before our first exam, Dr. Larimore told us that the exam was \*not\* going to be open note. It was clear that Dr. Larimore herself was not familiar with the syllabus.

Furthermore, Dr. Larimore never knew what information was going to be on any given test. The instructions for our final project were vague and incomplete, and changed at least once.

Dr. Larimore was, to her credit, very generous in grading our coursework.



Jennifer Larimore --- Survey Comparisons ---**Instructor Questions** BIOL Individual ΑII Responses **General Instructor Questions** SD 0 0 0 0 0 SA N Mean Med. Mode The instructor was available to students outside of class (for example, held office hours, responded to 017 0 0 0 0 1 3 7 11 6.5 .66 **231 6.2** 54 **2K 6.3** 49 emails and other student efforts to contact the instructor).

Responses: [SD] Strongly Disagree=1 [0] 0=2 [0] 0=3 [0] 0=4 [0] 0=5 [0] 0=6 [SA] Strongly Agree=7

Pct Rnk: Percentile Rank (100 is best, calculated vs. precise Mean)

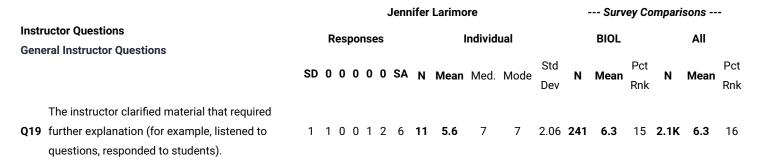
# Q18 - Please explain or comment on the question above.

Faculty: Jennifer Larimore

Response Rate: 18.18% (2 of 11)

- Dr. Larimore usually responded to emails quickly. That said, she was not a particularly helpful resources if you had actual questions about science.
- 2 Always available and responded to emails.





Responses: [SD] Strongly Disagree=1 [0] 0=2 [0] 0=3 [0] 0=4 [0] 0=5 [0] 0=6 [SA] Strongly Agree=7

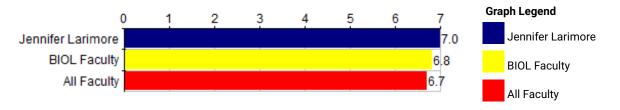
Pct Rnk: Percentile Rank (100 is best, calculated vs. precise Mean)

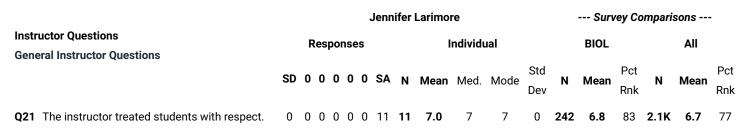
#### Q20 - Please explain or comment on the question above.

Faculty: Jennifer Larimore

Response Rate: 45.45% (5 of 11)

- The professor did not always know the answers to questions that students asked. Also clearly used answer guides that were not always correct, and did not listen to students who had the correct answers.
- Dr. Larimore was highly responsive to students and was always open to our feedback and questions. When I had questions from a study guide or test, I appreciated being able to talk through the explanation as a class.
- 3 Discussions in class did not really take place, did not learn a lot of the material into long term memory.
- 4 Answered questions, open to discussion.
  - Again, I really \*like\* Dr. Larimore. I also believe she's a great bench scientist and researcher, and completely knows her stuff about her area of
- 5 research. That said, she knew the answer to our in-class questions less than half the time. Once, she called her dad and put him on speakerphone to answer a question about something.





Responses: [SD] Strongly Disagree=1 [0] 0=2 [0] 0=3 [0] 0=4 [0] 0=5 [0] 0=6 [SA] Strongly Agree=7

Pct Rnk: Percentile Rank (100 is best, calculated vs. precise Mean)

# Q22 - Please explain or comment on the question above.

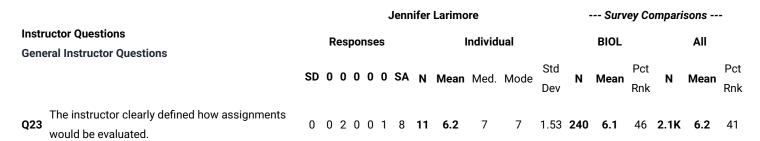
Faculty: Jennifer Larimore

Response Rate: 18.18% (2 of 11)

1 Dr. Larimore is kind, fun, and quite understanding about people's individual needs.

2 Beyond respectful





**Responses:** [SD] Strongly Disagree=1 [0] 0=2 [0] 0=3 [0] 0=4 [0] 0=5 [0] 0=6 [SA] Strongly Agree=7

Pct Rnk: Percentile Rank (100 is best, calculated vs. precise Mean)

# Q24 - Please explain or comment on the question above.

Faculty: Jennifer Larimore

Response Rate: 36.36% (4 of 11)

- 1 the syllabus was a bit unclear and could be tweaked
- 2 Not clear instructions
- 3 Class assignments were laid out in the syllabus. Grading was overall fair and clear.
- Again, we found out two days before our first test that, in direct contradiction to the syllabus, it was not open note. In addition, our final project instructions were so vague that all of us were nervous that we can understood the assignment completely incorrectly.



Jennifer Larimore --- Survey Comparisons ---**Instructor Questions** Individual **BIOL** Responses ΑII **General Instructor Questions** Std Pct Pct U P G VG E Mean Med. Mode Ν Mean Mean Dev Rnk Rnk Q25 Overall rating of the teaching of the course. 1 1 2 0 1.41 242 27 28

Responses: [U] unsatisfactory=1 [P] poor=2 [G] good=3 [VG] very good=4 [E] excellent=5

Pct Rnk: Percentile Rank (100 is best, calculated vs. precise Mean)

#### Q26 - Please explain or comment on the question above.

Faculty: Jennifer Larimore

Response Rate: 45.45% (5 of 11)

4

- I really appreciated Dr. Larimore's insights and feedback. I felt like she was invested in our growth and success as future professionals in the field.
- I just wish some of the more dense topics had been covered by in-class lectures and discussions rather than it being an entirely flipped classroom model.
- Dr. Larimore is a great professor. She is extremely knowledgeable and was very chill during the class. Science can be a bit intimidating to learn and Dr. Larimore relaxed, but effective approach really helped us learn the information. Biology can be very challenging and Dr. Larimore made this class super fun and easy. Her chill mindset took a lot of stress off our backs. She graded assignments in a timely manner and provided relevant feedback when needed. Thank you Dr. Larimore! We need more professors like you in the science field!!!
  - Dr. Larimore did not organize class time, write exams, write our study guide assignments, read the papers we were assigned to analyze, or answer most of our questions. Had I not come to class or watched any of the lecture videos, I would have had a very similar experience. I don't know how to see that as anything but a lack of teaching.
  - I know Dr. Larimore is an awesome faculty member and is loved by many of her neuro students. I hope, for future PBPM cohorts, Agnes Scott can find a biology teacher who actually wants to teach the subject.
- 5 Did not effectively learn the material to the level I would have hoped.