



Course Outline

GENS1112

Genetics and Society

School of Biotechnology and Biomolecular
Sciences

Faculty of Science

Term 2, 2021

1. Staff

For any general course related inquiries please use the following address: gensoc@unsw.edu.au

Position	Name	Email	Consultation times and locations	Contact Details
Course Convenor	Dr. Dhanushi Abeygunawardena	dhanushi@unsw.edu.au	By Appointment	BABS, UNSW Tel: (02) 9385 6825

Course Co-convenor Dr. Lauren McKnight

What does this all mean? Is it ethical? Is it legal? What are the social implications that come with these applications?

This interactive, fully online course will introduce students to fundamental genetic concepts using real life applications and implications of genetics while providing an opportunity to get hands-on experience in analysing and interpreting genetic data. Students will be encouraged to critically evaluate the ethical, legal and social implications of genetic advances throughout the course. On completion, we anticipate the students will be better prepared to survive in the “genome generation” and participate in informed debate and decision making with regard to incorporating genetic interventions in everyday life.

2.2 Course aims

This course aims to provide students with a sound background in essential genetic concepts and make them aware of the impact that genetic findings and applications have on everyday life. It discusses the ways in which genetics and genomics have affected many societal practices including medical diagnosis, food production, forensics and sports. The course will provide insights into what the future might hold and encourage reflection on the ethical, legal and social implications of genetic applications. We aim to equip students with the genetic literacy required for informed decision making and evidence-based discussion about real-life applications of genetics. We anticipate the course will instil intrinsic interest in the subject and inspire life-long learning, enabling students to stay up to date with this rapidly changing field.

2.3 Course learning outcomes (CLO)

At the successful completion of this course you (the student) should be able to:

1. Identify and describe examples of genetic applications and interventions in everyday life
2. Describe basic scientific theories, concepts and techniques underlying genetic applications and interventions
3. Interpret and evaluate media representations of genetics and genomics
4. Apply the scientific method to perform basic analyses and interpretation of genomic data
5. Develop evidence-based arguments and participate in informed debate on ethical, legal and social implications surrounding genetic applications and interventions

Week 7 (12 th July)	Genetics and nutrition	Introduction to genome-wide association studies and data analysis	1. Contribute to discussion forums 2. Quiz 6 3. Critical review due on the 12th July
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Discussion forums in the module and

forums

5.3 Submission of assessment tasks

You **must** pass all four assessments to pass the course.

Assignment submission

All assessments are to be submitted online via Moodle. More details on assignment submission and deadlines will be provided on Moodle.

Late Submissions of Assignments

Instructions for Assessment tasks will be made available from the start of the Term via Moodle. You should plan to complete them prior to the deadlines.

Any assessment task that is submitted after the due date will have a late penalty applied. Late submissions will incur a 10% decrease in the overall mark for the assessment per day. Any assessment handed in more than 5 days late or after the formal exam period will not be marked.

If you are unable to complete the assessment tasks by the due date and time, you must contact the course convenor and apply for Special Consideration **before** the due date for your assessment, except where your circumstances of illness or misadventure stop you from doing so.

If your circumstances stop you from applying before your assessment due date, you must apply within 3 working days of the assessment or the period covered by your supporting documentation.

Special Consideration for missed Quizzes

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6. Academic integrity, referencing and plagiarism

Referencing is a way of acknowledging

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