Grades will be based on the following:

1. Attendance, participation and completion of laboratory experiments (20%)

You are expected to attend all laboratory sessions and complete the assignments during this period unless there is an emergency. Do not ask to leave early unless there is an emergency. Participation credit is given for questions about the theory behind the methods, the procedures and what scientific questions can be addressed using the procedures, and for helping other students with theory and practice of experiments.

2. Laboratory notebooks and flow charts (30%)

You should maintain a clear notebook with a written record of the activities during each laboratory period. This should be a loose-leaf binder with lined paper, or a proper laboratory notebook. Label the top of each page with your name and the date. In addition, you should prepare a flow chart for each lab and a flowchart showing how each experiment relates to the other. Be sure to tape all gel pictures, printouts and other output from instruments into the notebook after each experiment, and to clearly label the lanes, samples etc. on the paper it is taped to (do not wait until the end of the class!!!!).

Turn in your notebook and flow charts on the last day of the class (Dec 4).

3. Written exams (50%)

The exams will be 30 minutes long and will be given in class. They will cover a single topic the week after we have done the lab. Since some labs will take two weeks to complete, we will not have an exam each week, but 10 exams will be spread over the semester (see syllabus for exam dates). It is possible to make up exams only under specific circumstances.

Grades are on the plus/minus system
A (93-100%) A- (90-92%)
B+ (87-89%) B (83-86%) B- (80-82%)
C+ (77-79%) C (73-76%) C- (70-72%)
D (60-69%)