

TROY UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGICAL and ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES
LABORATORY SAFETY REGULATIONS

1. The laboratory has quick access to a safety shower, eye wash fountains, shower hoses at the sinks, first aid kits, and fire extinguishers. Note the location of these safety devices and acquaint yourself with their proper use. Additional safety equipment may be announced by your instructor.
 2. Protect your eyes at all times while handling chemicals (solid or liquid) or while dissecting animals or plants. You must properly wear splash proof safety goggles (available in bookstore) during these activities. You are not permitted to wear contact lenses during these activities. Handle goggles by the rim and avoid touching the lenses. If dirty, clean with soapy water (not alcohol wipes) and blot dry with non-abrasive towels.
 3. Clothing worn to laboratory must provide adequate protection against chemical spills. Therefore, closed-toe shoes are required. Otherwise, clothing should follow a "neck-to-knee" policy. Shirts should fully cover the torso, and shorts/skirts should come down to the knee. Students must wear safety aprons (provided) and nitrile gloves (bookstore) during dissections or while handling chemicals.
 4. Use good dissection technique. Your instructor will show you the appropriate way to use scissors and scalpels and how to avoid injuries. For example, you should not hold an animal while another student cuts close to your fingers.
 5. Keep your work area clean. Do not allow books or other personal items to contact chemicals or dissections.
 6. Wash your hands often during lab, and always wash hands before leaving. Do not touch your face, eyes, nose or mouth unless your hands have been thoroughly washed.
 7. Eating, drinking, or use of tobacco or chewing gum is not permitted in the laboratory. No chemicals or dissection tools should ever be placed in the mouth. Never smell directly from any vapor source.
 8. Work in the laboratory involving chemicals or dissections is permitted only during scheduled laboratory periods. We will not permit unauthorized dissection or use of chemicals.
 9. If chemicals get in the eyes or on the skin, wash the area immediately with water. Have your lab partner or nearest neighbor report the accident to the lab instructor. First aid supplies are available in the laboratory for minor injuries.
 10. Major injuries will be immediately treated at the Student Health Center (670-3452) or the emergency room of Troy Regional Medical Center (670-5000). Your laboratory instructor will summon an ambulance or arrange for private transportation. You must file an accident report in all cases.
 11. You may also dial 9-911 or zero on any TSU phone to receive fire, police, or medical help.
 12. Prior medical clearance. Notify the instructor of any health or physical concerns during the first week of the semester. Examples include allergies, pregnancy, or other medical conditions that may prevent you from participating in a laboratory exercise. Students with health or physical concerns should provide notes from their physician stating that it is safe for them to participate in lab activities without risks to health. When possible, the instructor may be able to provide alternate exercises for students on a limited basis.
 13. Clean chemical spills immediately. Inform the instructor about any spill so that the material can be safely disposed. Do not drain any chemical into the sink without instructor approval.
 14. The laboratories are closed to individuals not enrolled in a biology lab. Students may not bring guests, children, other individuals or pets into the laboratory during class or during non-class hours.
 15. Lab safety rules will be observed at all times, during class time as well as non-class hours.
 16. Failure to adhere to these regulations will lead to dismissal from that laboratory session with the appropriate penalty. Repeat offenders will be dismissed from class and given a course grade of "F".
 17. **Disclaimer.** Students who are unwilling or unable to follow the safety regulations may drop the course during the first week of the semester without penalty.
-

I have read the laboratory safety regulations and agree to abide by them at all times in the laboratory.

Name _____ (print) Student # _____

Signature _____ Date _____ Class #, section #, _____