Department: Biology

Course Information: BIOL 1011 General Biology I

Instructor: Professor Strasburg

Below is information about the sections of the course, the number of LAs we expect to hire per section, and the meeting times that you will be expected to attend for each section.

Before you apply, ensure that these times fit into your schedule.

Section #	**Expected Number of LAs for this section**	**LAs need to attend course functions at the following times:**
1	3	Section 001 MWF 9:00-9:50 lecture
2	3	Section 002 MWF 11:00-11:50 lecture

In addition to being available for the times listed above, working as an LA also requires the following:

1. All LAs must meet weekly with their faculty member to prepare for the following week's events at a time mutually acceptable to the faculty and LA
2. **All new LAs** must be available to attend a training from 4:30pm – 8pm on Wednesday, January 14th, 2026 (if you have extenuating circumstances that prevent you from attending this training, please contact Carrie Misuraco at cmisurac@d.umn.edu)
3. **All *new* LAs** must be available to complete training on one of the following weekly times:
   Wednesdays 3-3:50pm
   Wednesdays 4-4:50pm
   Thursdays 2-2:50pm

What will an LA do in this course?

The role of the LA varies slightly in each course. Read below for more information from Professor Strasburg on the LA's role in this course.

What is the role of the LA in this course?
LAs in my GB1 section will work directly with their peers in small-group activities during lecture. They will help me determine in real time during lectures what concepts students are understanding and which require further discussion. During our weekly prep sessions, LAs will work with each other and me to plan review sessions based on material we,Äôve covered in lecture and what topics students find challenging. We,Äôll also discuss strategies for running review sessions based on LAs,Äô observations and their own past experiences of what works well. I regularly ask my LAs for feedback and advice on what works well and what doesn,Äôt and ask for suggestions on improvements, and adjust my plans accordingly.

How could being an LA for this course benefit you?
Based on my conversations with previous LAs, there are a number of aspects of the experience they find valuable. Seeing the process of learning from the ,Äúother side,Äù is often very enlightening, and the processes of leading students through course material and writing questions about the material helps them understand the material much better themselves. For students thinking about grad school, this experience is great preparation for the teaching that may be part of their grad school experience, and also an excellent addition to their application. For students planning on med school or other professional school, developing these communication and teaching skills is also great experience.

Additional Questions: