

# PEER-ASSISTED LEARNING (PAL) IN BIOLOGY 207

## A VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY FOR UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS

Changes made because of COVID-19 are **highlighted**. Note that we are committed to keeping this program running!

In the 2020/2021 academic year we will be running the Peer-Assisted Learning (PAL) in Biology 207 (Molecular Genetics and Heredity). This program started in 2008 to provide regularly scheduled, out-of-class review sessions to all students enrolled in the course. To make this happen we require undergraduate students who:

- received an A– or higher, **or a CR**, when they took BIOL 207
- have a solid understanding of basic genetics concepts
- are looking for a volunteer job that involves teaching students

PAL Teaching Assistants work directly with course instructors and get an insider's appreciation of how courses work. They also develop teaching and public speaking skills. Former PAL TAs have found the experience rewarding and have gone on into medicine, graduate school, and other professional degree programs.

Candidates must also have enough flexibility in their timetable to fit in 6 hours per week while classes are in session. The breakdown is 3 hours of preparation, two 1 hour sessions, and a 1 hour weekly meeting.

**Be prepared for either (i) regular in person sessions and meetings or (2) remotely delivered sessions + online meetings in Fall 2020. Needless to say, the BIOL 207 course will abide by all UofA recommendations and requirements.**

Preference will be given to candidates who:

- participated in the PAL sessions when they took BIOL 207
- have completed or intend to take GENET and related courses
- have worked or intend to work in a research lab
- are in a program hosted by the Department of Biological Sciences
- participate in extracurricular activities such as volunteering and sports

Candidates who transferred from other academic institutions are welcome to apply. You can modify your application package as required. Your reference letters could be from your original institution. La candidature des étudiants ayant pris des cours à la Faculté Saint-Jean est aussi encouragée.

If you are interested, application forms are available here:

[www.ualberta.ca/biological-sciences/undergraduate-studies/research-project-courses/biol-207](http://www.ualberta.ca/biological-sciences/undergraduate-studies/research-project-courses/biol-207)

Students who applied in previous years may reapply. The deadline for applications is Tuesday August 4 (the day after Heritage Day). Interviews will be done by Skype / FaceTime / Zoom in early August until all positions are filled.

Contact the PAL program coordinator, Dr. Mike Harrington ([mjh@ualberta.ca](mailto:mjh@ualberta.ca)), for more information.