Laboratory Safety

## General Safety Rules

* Work in a laboratory only during regular, assigned period when an instructor is present, unless specific authorization has been given by the instructor to work in the laboratory at other times.
* Read carefully and observe fully all laboratory instructions. In case there is any doubt about any procedure, check with your instructor.
* Learn the location and proper use of emergency showers, fire extinguishers, and eye wash stations.
* Avoid inhaling chemical vapors or gases. Use fume hoods for hazardous materials.
* Immediately wash off and chemicals spilled on the skin with lots of water. In case of a serious spill, remove contaminated clothing immediately and flush affected area with lots of water.
* Do not eat, smoke, or drink in the laboratory. Do not bring any food items into the laboratory.
* Do not leave experiments in progress unattended without authorization.
* Keep working areas neat and clean at all times.
* Report all accidents to the instructor immediately.

## Personal Protective Equipment

* All persons working with hazardous chemicals should wear gloves.
* All persons working with chemicals that could be splashed in the eyes are required to wear safety goggles or glasses.
* Contact lenses should not be worn in lab when hazardous chemicals or vapors are being used.
* Because of the danger of broken glassware or spilled chemicals, covered shoes should be worn in the laboratory. (No types of open toe shoes are permitted in labs.)

## Chemical Safety

* Almost every chemical, whether solid, liquid or gaseous, is poisonous to the human body to some degree. Always use proper caution when handling chemicals.
* Consult a physician if you are pregnant or have any other medical condition that might render you susceptible to exposure to the chemicals used in this laboratory.
* When handling chemicals, keep your hands away from your face, eyes and body until your hands have been washed thoroughly.
* Do not taste any chemical. Label every container so items can be identified.
* When diluting acids, ALWAYS POUR ACID INTO WATER SLOWLY.
* Do not pipet anything into the mouth.

## Waste Disposal

* Always treat laboratory glassware as if it were fragile. If glassware breaks, do not pick broken glass up with your hands. Use a broom and dustpan, then place pieces in the cardboard box labeled “Glass Disposal Box.”
* Do not pour any chemicals down the drain. The instructor will advise you how to use the proper waste containers.
* Discarded animals parts must be placed in a red cardboard “Biohazardous Waste” box.
* Discarded sharp items including: scalpels, dissecting pins, probes, and needles must be placed in a red, plastic “Sharps Box.”

## Safety Agreement

## Biology 113

I have read the Lab Safety Rules and procedures for the prevention of injuries in the laboratory, and I will observe them in my lab work.

INSTRUCTOR’S NAME:

STUDENT’S NAME (PRINT)

STUDENT’S SIGNATURE

DATE