

General Biology -BIOL 2020

Spring 2013

Course Information

Lecture: Biol 2020 40, 90 – Internet Delivery

Laboratory: Biol L002 40, 90 – Internet Delivery

Instructor availability specific for this course: T/Th 1:00-2:30 pm, W 1:00-4:00 pm

Credit Hours: 4.0

Instructor Information

Coventry Dougherty-Woodin

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Office Hours: M/W 8:30 – 9:30 am, T/Th 2:30 – 4:00 pm or by appointment

Course Content Information

Catalog Description:

A continuation of Biology 1010. Units are included on ecology, nutrition, reproduction and development, anatomy and physiology, animal behavior, and life and diversity of plants and animals. Prerequisites: BIOL 1010 with a grade of C or better.

Introduction & Rationale:

As an informed citizen in a democracy, you have a great deal to say about the solutions to problems. In a democracy it is assumed that the public is informed enough to make intelligent decisions. This is why an understanding of biological concepts is so important for any person irrespective of his or her education.

Course Objectives:

This course will emphasize the unity and diversity of life, where you will be introduced to biological principles in a context such that you can learn to apply these concepts to novel situations. There are several common themes or principles that are important enough to repeat in a variety of contexts. These include, but are by no means limited to:

1. Evolution. You will develop an understanding of the theories of the origin of life and the evolution of cells. You will understand the mechanisms which drive the process of evolution including natural selection.
2. Taxonomy. You will understand the classification of living organisms and their evolutionary history. You will be able to identify organisms from each of the three Domains of life and each of the five Kingdoms of life
3. Anatomy & Physiology. You will be able to identify anatomical structures of plants and animals. You will develop an understanding of the major physiological processes in animals. You will develop an understanding of sexual reproduction and development in plants and animals.

4. You will become familiar with laboratory applications and techniques. You will become familiar with laboratory practical examinations.

Required Textbooks:

Lecture Textbook: Biology; Mader, Sylvia (10th ed.) ISBN: 9780073525433

Laboratory Manual: Biology: There is no lab manual required for this course. I will provide the information necessary to complete laboratory assignments.

The above material will be supplemented through Lecture Notes, videos and podcasts.

Your textbook's website: http://highered.mcgraw-hill.com/sites/007352543x/student_view0/index.html (Some of your assignments will be found at this website.)

Additional Resources:

I often find that just reading the text and actively participating in lecture and lab are not enough for me to grasp a new concept. With this in mind, I am providing some web resources that have been useful to me throughout my academic career in biology!

A biological dictionary: <http://www.biology-online.org/dictionary>

Study tips: <http://abacus.bates.edu/~ganderso/biology/resources/studytips.html>

Tree of Life: <http://www.tolweb.org/tree/>

SmarThinking: This is an online resource that connects students with professional educators.

This resource has online tutoring, writing services, and homework help. Tutors are available up to 24 hours a day, 7 days a week in a variety of subjects. This service is free to all EWC students.

LancerNet: http://prod.campuscruiser.com/PageServlet?pg=home_welcome&cx=22.327

Course Requirements and Expectations

Grading Policy:

Unless otherwise stated, grades will be posted on LancerNet within two weeks of the assignment due date. Points are earned as follows:

ITEM	POINTS POSSIBLE
Discussion Topics: 15 @ 10 pts	150
RAM Proficiencies: 13 @ 10 pts	130
Quest Proficiencies: 4 @ 100 pts	400
Course Proficiency: 1 @ 150 pts	150
Lab Reports: 11 @ 30 pts	330
Lab Practicum: 2 @ 75 pts	150
Level Up Opportunities: TBD	
Total Possible Points	1310

****NOTE: THERE IS ABSOLUTELY NO EXTRA CREDIT OFFERED IN THIS COURSE! IF YOU HAVE TIME TO DO EXTRA CREDIT, YOU HAVE TIME TO STUDY!**

Your grade will then be determined according to the following scale:

1179 – 1310 points (90 – 100%) = Master Biologist (A)

1048 – 1178 points (80 – 89%) = Level 3 Biologist (B)

0917 – 1047 points (70 – 79%) = Level 2 Biologist (C)

0786 – 0918 points (60 – 69%) = Level 1 Biologist (D)

0000 – 0785 points (00 – 59%) = Newbie (F)

What to Expect From:

Preparation Time:

While this is not your first college biology course, you still may have some preconceived notions. “Biology is hard!” “I feel like I am learning a new language.” Both of these statements are true; however, you can master this course as well as any other course through your amount of effort. A general guideline for estimating study time, particularly in science courses, is two to three hours of preparation for each lecture/lab hour. This translates to 60 lecture/lab hours and 120 to 180 hours of preparation/study. Successful students (C or better) spend roughly eight to 12 hours per week **ACTIVELY** preparing for this course. What does **ACTIVELY** mean? This is a great question. **ACTIVELY** means: 1. pre-reading assigned text prior to lecture (underlining/highlighting important sections, maintaining a list of unfamiliar words, making outlines or concept maps, making connections between assigned readings and previously studied topics); 2. lecture participation (note taking, asking/answering questions, participation in discussion, asking for clarification of concepts); 3. memorizing/analyzing/integrating terms and concepts in your individual study time (drawing pictures, devising clever memory hooks, verbally reciting concepts, working sample problems, etc.). You may think that you are not cut out for learning biology. This is nonsense! You can all learn biology, and I will do everything I can to help!

This may be your first experience participating in a class using an online setting. You may have some preconceived notions regarding this as well. However; it is as imperative as it would be if you were attending lecture and lab on campus that you keep up with the material. Yes, you are working at your own pace, but do not let this turn you into a procrastinator. You will fall behind quickly if you "put off until tomorrow what you can do today". You need to set time aside to focus, participate & study to succeed in this course. Doing so will eliminate undue stress!

Attendance:

Regular attendance and steady progress are essential to success in this course. Keep in mind that you are expected to spend *at least* 12 hours per week on this class; however, this will be done on your own schedule since this course is online. Some of you may need to spend more time than this to “grasp” the material. If you were taking this class on campus, you would be coming to class six hours per week for lecture and six hours per week for labs. You do need to adhere to due dates for exams, quizzes and assignments, so log in frequently to keep up to date.

While You Are Studying (WYAS):

Think of WYAS as a study guide. It does **NOT** need to be turned in to me, so it is at your discretion as to whether or not you choose to use it. Quite simply, it is meant to give you guidance and direction for concepts you grasp vs. those you do not, i.e., "Did you get it"? You should be able to answer each of the questions after completing the chapters.

Quests and Missions:

This course is divided into four different quests. Each quest is comprised of a number of different missions designed to enhance your learning of the particular chapters within the quest.

Missions will consist of both mandatory and optional activities for you to complete to help retain and maintain the information necessary to successfully navigate this course.

Retain And Maintain (RAM) Proficiencies:

Each week, you will be given a small proficiency to test your retention of the material from the previous week. This policy of having small proficiencies each week is intended for you to keep up your progress over the semester, and hopefully will ease your stress a bit by putting less pressure on you to excel on only Quest and Course proficiencies. Some of the RAM questions will be multiple choice, some will be activities. RAMs are intended to encourage you to keep up with the material (maintain) and to encourage study techniques that will make you successful in this class and beyond (retain). **Your grade will be based on the best 13 out of 15 RAMs collected.** Because your two lowest scores will be dropped, **RAMs cannot be made up.** Each RAM is worth 10 points, for a total of 130 points.

Quest Proficiencies:

There will be four Quest Proficiencies in this course. These proficiencies are listed in the "Tentative Lecture Schedule". Make note of these dates and times so you can adequately prepare. These proficiencies must be completed within the allotted time. The proficiencies will have questions based on the posted notes & the text. There will be a variety of question types including: multiple choice, matching, fill-in-the-blank and essay. Some questions will be rather straightforward in an effort to test your knowledge of the terminology, while others will require you to apply the concepts or solve problems based on the information you have learned. There will be practice quizzes and other resources available from the textbook publisher's website: http://highered.mcgraw-hill.com/sites/007352543x/information_center_view0/. These are great practice as you prepare for your proficiencies. I will also try to make other links available to provide additional information to help you study.

Course Proficiency:

The course proficiency is comprehensive (all previous chapters). It is worth 150 points. I would also suggest that you do not discard of your notes, study guides, etc. until you have taken this exam.

Proficiency Make-up Policy:

Each proficiency takes hours to craft, balancing simple questions with more challenging problems. A make-up requires that a new proficiency be created, one completely equal, but totally different than the one your classmates received. If you should miss one of the scheduled proficiency, be aware that I rarely schedule make-up proficiency. To qualify for a make-up proficiency, you have been: hospitalized, have a doctor's written documentation for an illness that **you** personally suffer, or there is a death of an immediate family member. In addition, you **must** contact me within 24h of the proficiency (preferably before, not after), or you will not be able to make up the proficiency. If it is decided that you can take a make-up proficiency, that proficiency must be taken prior to the results of that proficiency are returned to the general class. If this does not occur, you must make up the proficiency during finals week. While a reliable internet connection is vital for success in this course, it is especially important that you have a reliable internet connection during RAM & proficiency time. You may want to take your proficiencies at your local Outreach center to ensure uninterrupted internet service. Should your

internet connection fail you during exam time, you will not be allowed to finish or make up the proficiency. **In the event of a complete EWC server failure, please notify me via email immediately. Except in extenuating circumstances, no provisions will be made for the final proficiency.**

Lab Assignments:

There will be 12 lab assignments in this class. The first lab assignment will be for bonus points, while the subsequent 11 are required and must be submitted by their due dates. Once again, please check the schedule to see when the labs will need to be completed as missing two or more labs constitutes failure of the course. Each lab assignment is worth 30 points.

Lab Make-up Policy:

There are no make-ups for lab assignments. Please make sure you adhere to the due dates as failure to submit more than two labs will result in failure of this course (this is a lab science).

Weekly Discussion:

Each week there will be a new discussion topics/questions posted on LancerNet. You will receive credit for each assigned discussion topic/question that you respond to. Please see the description of this assignment for more information about response criteria. There will be a total of 160 points possible for the discussion assignment this semester. I would like to think that each of us value the opinions, thoughts and comments of others. Therefore, in order to receive full credit each week, you must post your own answer and respond to at least two other posts within the due date of the topic post.

Late Assignments & Extra Credit:

All assignments are due on their assigned dates and times. **Late assignments will not be accepted.** There is absolutely **NO** extra credit offered in this course. If you have time to do extra credit, you have time to study. I do however, offer bonus points on assignments. In these cases, your performance is well beyond expectations! There will be Level Up Opportunities as well. For many folks, these two categories of points have increased their grade by one full letter!

Withdrawal Policy:

You may withdraw from the course with a grade of "W" (withdrawal); however, the decision must be made and the procedure accomplished ON OR BEFORE the College's official last day to drop classes (April 25, 2013). If the procedure is not completed before this day, you will receive a grade of "F". This is your responsibility.

After the College's official last day to drop classes, you cannot receive a "W" (withdrawal) for the course, except for very extenuating circumstances (serious illness, hospitalization, etc.).

Exceptions that do not count as an absence:

1. Prolonged illness (hospital, etc.)
2. Death in immediate family
3. School activities and trips (team sports, class field trips, etc.). The student must tell the instructor before the absence.

NOTE: ** The instructor reserves the right to verify extenuating circumstances.

Academic Integrity and Class Conduct:

I consider the act of Academic Dishonesty to be unethical behavior! Academic dishonesty (examples include, but are not limited to: cheating, plagiarism, copying from your neighbor, taking quizzes/exams in any way but yourself, etc.) will not be tolerated in any form. What constitutes cheating and plagiarism? Another great question! Cheating includes using your textbook, notes, internet resources, sharing answers, having someone else do your work, working together on individual assignments, etc. while completing RAMs, exams and assignments. The act of plagiarism is committed when one copies or uses ideas of another individual without giving that individual proper credit. This does include copying work from other students, copying and pasting information from the internet or taking information directly from your text or lecture notes. If your work is not in your own words, consider it plagiarism! It is not fair to your classmates, to me, or ultimately to you. Any student who is caught in any of these acts will receive an “F” for this course.

Students shall complete all assigned course work individually unless otherwise indicated. In addition, the instructor may refer the student to the appropriate EWC official for further discipline.

Student Expectations:

1. You are expected to spend a minimum of 12 hours per week on this course.
2. You are expected to complete activities, RAMs, and proficiencies by the designated due dates.
3. You are expected to read the text book, notes and other materials supplied for the course.
4. You are expected to seek additional help as needed. Contact your instructor, a tutor, or a peer study group to get extra help. Do not wait until it is too late! If you cannot see/contact me during my office hours, schedule an appointment. For lab assignments, **DO NOT** submit any version of the answer, **I don't understand**. To me, this suggests that you are not interested in the learning process. Instead, contact me immediately, and I will do everything I can to help you work through the problem.
5. You are expected to respect the ideas of others and exhibit proper online etiquette.
6. You are expected to include the course number (Biol 2020) in the subject line of any email correspondence you send to your instructor.
7. You are expected to include your name and the course number on any assignments or attachments that you submit. These assignments and attachments often get separated from your email, so make sure your name is on the assignment or attachment! **I deduct two points for failure to include your name!** You also need to keep a copy of the assignments you submit until you have received your final grade in the course... because things can disappear due to the "gremlins" that exist in cyberspace.
8. It is expected that you know how to communicate with others in writing. This means using proper English, using complete sentences with proper punctuation, no texting-type of abbreviations, and the correct spelling of words. Proof-read your work. **Failure to do so will result in deductions of 0.5 points per infraction with a maximum deduction per assignment of 15 points!**

9. **Science & Religion:** For those of you that are deeply rooted in your faith and religion, realize that I certainly applaud and appreciate your passion and conviction. This course is in no way designed to challenge the root of your faith nor your beliefs. Quite simply, it is designed to introduce you to theories and concepts as well as test your comprehension of those theories and concepts. It is not meant nor designed for you to accept those theories, but rather acknowledge they exist, just as you would acknowledge there is more than one religion. With this in mind, you will not receive credit for answers or assignments that fail to answer the questions based on the presented course content. It is also unacceptable to ask for supplemental questions, assignments or exemptions as a result of religious beliefs.

Disclaimer:

Information contained in this syllabus was, to the best knowledge of the instructor, considered correct and complete when distributed for use at the beginning of class. However, this syllabus should not be considered a contract between Eastern Wyoming College and the student. The instructor reserves the right, acting within the policies and procedures of EWC, to make changes in course content or instructional technique without notice or obligation.

General Education Requirements:

The following are the General Education Requirements for all graduates of EWC:

Communication Skills: Graduates will be able to understand and communicate ideas and information in written and spoken English that reveals a mastery of terminology appropriate to their disciplines.

Analytical and Quantitative Reasoning: Graduates will be able to solve problems through critical thinking involving analytical and quantitative reasoning at a level appropriate to their disciplines.

Technology Skills: Graduates will be able to demonstrate competence using technology appropriate to their disciplines.

Social Awareness: Graduates will be able to demonstrate an awareness of the relationship between the individual and the world.

Information Literacy: Graduates will be able to locate, evaluate and use information effectively.

Americans With Disabilities:

EWC is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for "qualified individuals with disabilities." If you are a person with a disability that qualifies under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), please notify your instructor and Mr. Tom McDowell in the President's Office complex or Ms. Debbie Ochsner in the Counseling/Testing Center as soon as possible so that arrangements for accommodations may be made.

Tentative Lecture Schedule - Spring 2013

Week	Dates	Lecture Topic	Assigned Chapter	RAM & Dates
1	Jan 14-20	Systemics & Phylogeny Viruses, Bacteria & Archaea	19 20	Practice RAM: Jan 21-22
2	Jan 21-27	Protist Evolution & Diversity Fungi Evolution & Diversity	21 22	CHs 19 & 20: Jan 28-29
3	Jan 28-Feb 3	Plant Evolution & Diversity	23	CHs 21 & 22: Feb 4-5

4	Feb 4-10	FP: Structure & Function	24	CHs 23 & 24: Feb 8-9
Quest 1 Proficiency: Chapters 19-24 Available: 8:00 am Mon, Feb 11 through 11:55 pm Tues, Feb 12				
5	Feb 11-17	FP: Nutrition & Transport FP: Growth Responses	25 26	CHs 25 & 26: Feb 18-19
6	Feb 18-24	FP: Reproduction Invertebrate Evolution	27 28	CHs 27 & 28: Feb 25-26
7	Feb 25-Mar 3	Vertebrate Evolution	29	CH 29: Mar 4-5
8	Mar 4-10	Human Evolution	30	CH 30: Mar 8-9
Quest 2 Proficiency: Chapters 25-30 Available: 8:00 am Mon, Mar 11 through 11:55 pm Tues, Mar 12				
9	Mar 11-17	Animal Organization & Homeostasis Circulation & Cardiovascular Systems	31 32	CHs 31 & 32: Mar 18-19
10	Mar 18-24	Digestive Systems & Nutrition Respiratory Systems	34 35	CHs 34 & 35: Apr 1-2
11	Mar 25-31	Spring Break! Enjoy!		
12	Apr 1-7	Body Fluid Regulation & Excretory System	36	CH 36: Apr 8-9
12	Apr 8-14	Neurons & Nervous Systems	37	CH 37: Apr 12-13
Quest 3 Proficiency: 30-32, 34-37 Available: 8:00 am Mon, Apr 15 through 11:55 pm Tues, Apr 16				
13	Apr 15-21	Locomotion & Support Systems	39	CH 39: Apr 22-23
14	Apr 22-28	Hormones & Endocrine Systems Reproductive Systems	40 41	CHs 40 & 41: Apr 29-30
15	Apr 29-May 5	Animal Development	42	CH 42: May 3-4
Quest 4 Proficiency: Chapters 39-42 Available: 8:00 am Mon, May 6 through 11:55 pm Tues, May 7				
Course Proficiency: Comprehensive Available: 8:00 am Wed, May 8 through 11:55 pm Thur, May 9				

Tentative Laboratory Schedule - Spring 2013

Week	Due Date	Lab Assignment - Due Thursdays @ Noon (12 pm)
1	17-Jan	No Lab
2	24-Jan	Practice Lab: Systemics & Phylogeny
3	31-Jan	Bacteria & Protists
4	7-Feb	Nonvascular & Seedless Vascular Plants
5	14-Feb	Organization of Flowering Plants
6	21-Feb	Introduction to Invertebrates
7	28-Feb	Transport in Plants
8	7-Mar	Lab Practicum 1
9	14-Mar	The Vertebrates
10	21-Mar	Animal Organization
11	28-Mar	No Lab - Spring Break
12	4-Apr	Nutrition
13	11-Apr	Mammalian Anatomy 1
14	18-Apr	Mammalian Anatomy 2
15	25-Apr	Muscle Stimulation
16	2-May	Lab Practicum 2
17	9-May	No Lab - Finals Week; GOOD LUCK!