

Valdosta State University
Organismal Biology – BIO 1030 Section A
CRN: 81709
TR 3:30-4:45
Bailey Science Center 1011

Course Description: An introduction to modern biology for the non-major with special emphasis on the processes involved in the development and maintenance of complex multicellular organisms.

-Co-requisite BIOL 1040L

Prerequisites: NA

Fall 2014

Professor: Dr. Matthew Waters

Office Location: Bailey Science Center 1106

Office Hours: Tuesday/Thursday 10-11, 2-3:15 PM. These are my officially scheduled office hours; however, you may stop by my office **at any time**. I recommend you email me ahead of time so we can schedule a time where we are both available. If I am not in my office during office hours, check my lab in Bailey 1055 down the hallway across from my office.

Office Phone: 333-5760 (If I'm not there, try email or leave me a message)

Email: mwaters@valdosta.edu

The best method of contact tends to be through e-mail; however, if I do not respond, it is your responsibility to make sure that I have any needed information.

Textbook: : We are using a FREE online book called openstax. Here is the webpage:

<https://openstaxcollege.org/textbooks/concepts-of-biology>

STUDENT EVALUATION: Your grade will be determined by your performance on (1) Four lecture exams and (2) one comprehensive final exam, (3) periodic quizzes, and (4) TED talk assignments.

- (1) Each of the four **lecture exams*** will consist of multiple choice and short answer questions. Questions will come from both the reading material and the lecture material. Each lecture exam will count 100 points, but your lowest lecture grade will be dropped, for a total of 300 exam points.
- (2) The **final exam*** will be comprehensive in nature. Approximately one half of the exam will be vocabulary while the other half will consist of short answer, labeling and calculations similar to the previous tests. The final exam will weigh more heavily than the lecture exams, at 200 points.
- (3) **Quizzes** will be given 14 times during the semester when tests are not scheduled. The quizzes will cover reading material and lecture notes. Quizzes may be given at any time of the week, so keep up with the required reading and reviewing of class notes. There will be 14 quizzes, each quiz will be worth 10 points, and only 10 will count toward the total of 100 possible points. I will drop your lowest 4 quiz grades. You may **not** make-up missed quizzes, missed quizzes will count toward the 4 possible dropped scores
- (4) TED Talks will be assigned 4 times throughout the semester. Students will be required to fill out a sheet on the TED Talk assigned. In addition, after 1 Ted Talk, the students will be required to write a one paragraph blog in response to the Ted Talk.

GRADING POLICY:

| | | |
|-------------------|------------------------|-------------------|
| Lecture exams | 100 points X 3 exams | 300 points |
| Quizzes | 10 points X 10 quizzes | 100 points |
| TED Talks | 50 points | 50 points |
| <u>Final Exam</u> | 150 points | <u>150 points</u> |
| TOTAL Grade | | 600 points |

FINAL COURSE GRADE

| | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Grading Scale: | A = 89.5 – 100% |
| | B = 79.5 – 89.49% |
| | C = 69.5 – 79.49% |
| | D = 59.5 – 69.49% |
| | F = < 59.49% |

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

- At VSU, attendance is mandatory for at least 80% of the classes. If you miss over 20% of the classes, I reserve the right to remove you with a failing grade.
- If you miss class, see a classmate for what you missed.
- Missed assignments
 - Quizzes *will not* be made up after class

Missed Tests:

If you miss a test for any reason, it counts as your dropped test. If the student misses, he or she must notify the instructor as why the miss occurred. Students with missed tests for excused reasons will be allowed a make up exam if a second test is missed.

GENERAL EDUCATION OUTCOMES

- VSU General Education Outcomes are explained in more detail on the web.
www.valdosta.edu/academic/VSUGeneralEducationOutcomes.shtml
- This course falls under outcome Area D which states, “Students will demonstrate understanding of the physical universe and the nature of science, and they will use scientific methods and/or mathematical reasoning and concepts to solve problems.”

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

- Students will gain knowledge of processes and functions associated with the human form and plants
- Students will leave the course with a refreshed view of biology, not just as material, but as a function of their everyday lives.
- Students will be able to make informed decisions about issues by looking at both sides of the issue
- Students will demonstrate understanding of the physical universe and the nature of science, and they will use scientific methods and/or mathematical reasoning and concepts to solve problems.
- General Education Outcomes: 3, 4, 5, 7, 8

BEHAVIOR:

- You are in college therefore you will be treated as an adult. Refrain from talking and disrupting those who want to learn. **CELL PHONES MUST BE TURNED OFF!** Classes are short; you can go that time without phone calls and text messaging. If you are expecting an important call please let the instructor know before class and you will be allowed to leave class to answer your call, but your phone must be on vibrate. If you talk on your phone in class you will be asked to leave.
- No IPODS or headphones! If you would rather listen to your music then you should not be in class.
- If you must use a laptop, then I require you sit in an area of the room where it will not be a distraction to others.
- Any student that disrupts the class will be removed from the class and possibly dropped from the course. Refer to the Undergraduate Catalog for more information.

*****Failure to follow the above will result in the quizzes mentioned above being pop quizzes instead of announced as well as the professor removing dropped quizzes.

ACADEMIC HONESTY:

Refer to VSU Student Code of Conduct, Appendix A in the VSU student handbook or <http://www.valdosta.edu/stulife/handbook/> A dishonest student will receive a failing grade on the exam or assignment.

ADA POLICY:

Students requiring classroom accommodations or modifications because of a documented disability should discuss this need with the instructor at the beginning of the semester. Students not registered with the Special Services Program, should contact the Access Office, Farber Hall (245-2498)

WITHDRAWAL FROM COURSE:

Students are advised to consult the VSU Undergraduate Bulletin and the VSU Fall 2013 Schedule of classes for information about VSU policies and procedures. *Last day to withdraw is October 9, 2014.* Please note that it is very difficult to withdraw after the midterm.

FEDERAL PRIVACY ACT:

It is illegal to release personal information about an individual to others. Therefore grades, averages, and other personal information about any person will not be released to another person or over email.

REQUIRED READING

Reading from your textbook is required. Only read the sections that correlate with the subject matter covered in lecture. Questions on the test may come from the text.

Tentative Schedule **Biology 1030 A**

| Chapter | Topic (<i>Tentative</i>) | Number of Lectures |
|---------------------------|--|--------------------|
| 2 | The Chemistry of Life | 2 |
| 3 | A tour of the cell | 2 |
| 4-partial | The energy of life | 2 |
| *****EXAM 1 ***** | | |
| 4-partial | Respiration | 2 |
| 5 | Photosynthesis | 2 |
| 6 | Mitosis and Cancer | 2-3 |
| *****EXAM 2 ***** | | |
| 7 | Cellular inheritance (Meiosis) | 2 |
| 8 | Genetics | 2 |
| 9 | DNA to Proteins | 2 |
| *****EXAM 3 ***** | | |
| 16 | Body's Systems | 3 |
| 18 | Animal Reproduction | 2 |
| 17 | Diseases | ? |
| *****EXAM 4 ***** | | |