UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO
COLLEGE OF SCIENCE
DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

Course:	BIOL 1306 (CRN 21536)
Course Title:	Organismal Biology
Credit Hours:	3 credit hours, lower division
Term:	Spring, 2017
Course Meetings& Location:	MW 1:30-2;50 PM, UGCL 346
Prerequisite Courses:	BIOL 1305-1107, or equivalent; Co-enrollment in, or previous "C or better" completion of BIOL 1108, is required.
Instructor:	Dr. Carl S. Lieb
Office Location:	"Old Biology" Building, B-204
Office Hours:	MW 10:00-11:00 AM, R 3:30-4:30 PM, and by appointment (see contact information, below)
Other Contact Info:	747-6987 email: clieb@utep.edu Coming in person to the instructor's office or using the telephone are the two *most reliable* means for time-sensitive communication with him. If you insist on using email, and do not reply indicating that email has been read, send it again (… and again)

Course Objectives (Learning Outcomes): There are three principal course objectives: 1) Students will be brought to a basic understanding of the principles of evolution, biosystematics, and ecology. 2) Students will be exposed to the general pattern of planetary biodiversity through a brief survey of major organismal groups. 3) Students will begin to become knowledgeable of the problems the all must organisms must solve through study of selective cases of animal and plant physiology. These three objectives are intended to finish the foundation of basic cell and molecular biology (and genetics) laid down in the prerequisite course and lab (BIOL 1305-1107), and, in concert with the BIOL 1306 laboratory course (BIOL 1108), prepare students for taking all sophomore and many upper division courses in the biological sciences.

Course Activities/Assignments: This edition of BIOL 1306 is a lecture course; course content is delivered by lecture presentation by the instructor, class discussion, or (rarely) by special assignment. Chapter readings assigned in the designated class textbook will supplement the lecture sessions for purposes of clarity and completeness. See Class Schedule, below, for the textbook reading in the order in which general topics are taken up. Should we fall behind in the calendar schedule of topics, examinations will track where we are in the lecture content, not necessarily in the schedule.

Assessment of Learning: Evaluation will be through three in-class examinations and a comprehensive Final Examination. The examinations contribute proportionately to the final grade as indicated below (none are "dropped"). There is no extra credit of any kind.

Grading Policy: Examinations I-III will be given on the following dates, and will be contributing to the final grade as indicated:

Exam I (20%) – 15 February
Exam II (30%) – 22 March
Exam III (30%) – 17 April

Failure to take Exam I and report in prompt fashion to the instructor; see "no show" policy below) may result in the student being arbitrarily dropped from the class roll. A comprehensive Final Examination will be given on Wednesday, 10 May starting at 4PM. It will represent the last 20% of the total grade, *and must be taken to pass the course*.

Examination "no show Policy – A missed lecture examination contributes zero percent toward the student's final course grade, and thus represents a serious perturbation in his/her class progress and a likely catastrophe for grade expectations. Such problems will be handled on a case-by-case basis at the discretion of your instructor, who nevertheless **insists that the following two rules be observed: 1)** If a student must miss an examination because of illness, death in the family, University sponsored event, or other legitimate reason, he or she must contact Dr. Lieb **in person *or* by telephone** (747-6987) either BEFORE the examination or **WITHIN 48 HOURS following the start of the examinations I, II, III or the Final (**and BEFORE the next class period for examinations I, II, or III); and **2**) the student must make arrangements within one week following the exam to personally discuss the situation with Dr. Lieb and arrange for an *immediate* disposition of the case, NEVER RELY ON EMAIL FOR THESE MISSED EXAM COMMUNICATIONS!

Drop Policy – The student drop date is **30 March 2017**. The results of the first two lecture examinations should be known by that time, and students are thus expected to act wisely in their own interest. Neither Dr. Lieb (no any Teaching Assistant in BIOL 1108) will drop a student who has taken any examinations, turned in any written work, or has been recorded as coming o class even once; withdrawal action must be taken by the student's own initiative by this 30 March deadline. The Office of the Dean of Science is declining to accept "W's" submitted by faculty for students after the drop deadline, except in cases of total withdrawal from the University. Thus, students who find themselves in academic trouble during the semester should promptly consult with their instructors so that their options can be explored (specifically, don't wait until the end of the semester to relate a tale of woe).

Attendance Policy: *Failure to attend class is the number one cause of academic failure in introductory science courses*; such disasters are remarkably independent of class standing (freshman through senior!). **On time attendance at every class meeting by every student is perforce required**. In attendance or not, students are held responsible for all materials presented, discussed, or assigned during class time.

Academic Integrity Policy: Despite his outward cynicism, your instructor more-or-less believes in the general goodness and honesty of his fellow human beings. Nevertheless, those who try to shatter his illusions and betray the norms of academic integrity will be turned in to the Dean of Students for disciplinary action. You may review UTEP policy in these matters at:

http://academics.utep.edu/Default.aspx?tabid=23785

Civility Policy: Civility between the members of the class, and between the instructor and the students, is also expected. Please use temperate language when speaking to one another and with the instructor. Additionally, although the class presentations are very informal, all are expected to use language and examples appropriate for a professional person.

Mute your cell phone before entering the classroom; please do not take calls or text messages during class time. Avoid all noisy endeavors no related to the matter at hand (talking, eating, snapping chewing gum, loud sighing/groaning, and, of course, snoring).

Your instructor will do his best to be present by the start of class (1:30 PM, sharp!); please emulate him with timely appearances as well. *Nevertheless, he would prefer you to being a few minutes late to being completely absent for the entire period (as a rare event, not something that happens frequently!).* The general rule is: if you must enter or leave the classroom when class is in session, do so as quietly and quickly as possible.

Disability Policy: If a student has or suspects he/she has disability and needs an accommodation, he/she should contact the Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) at 747-5148 or at cass@utep.edu or go to Room 106 Union East Building. You instructor is familiar with the operations and procedures of CASS; the student, however, is responsible for presenting to him any CASS accommodation letters and instructions.

Military Call-Up: Your instructor understands that students engaged in military service may be called up and deployed at any time; such events may also affect their family members. Please consult with your instructor as soon as the orders come through, so what arrangements for completion or suspension of academic work can be implemented in a timely manner.

Course Schedule

The ambitious schedule of lecture topics below may be subject to modification as the semester deteriorates. **Examination dates, however, are fixed.** The readings refer to the 1306 textbook cited above (Hillis *et al*., 2nd edition). These readings are intended to facilitate and/or add depth to the student's understanding of classroom and laboratory material until enlightenment is attained. **Reading the text, however, cannot and will not substitute for faithful attendance at the lecture sessions, and fr mastering their biology content of those lectures.**

18 January- 3 February - Chapter 15 (Processes of Evolution), Chapter 16 (Reconstructing and Using Phylogenies), Chapter 17 (Speciation); Chapter 18 (History of Life on Earth)

6 -13 February- Chapter 19 (Bacteria, Archaea, and Viruses), Chapter 20 (Protists)

15 February (Wednesday) – Examination I

20 February – Chapter 22 (Evolution and Diversity of Fungi)

22 February – 8 March Chapter 21 (Evolution and Diversity of Plants), Chapter 24 (The Plant Body), Chapter 24 (Plant Nutrition), Chapter 26 (Plant Growth and Development)

13-17 March -Spring Break, no classes

20 March - Chapter 27 (Reproduction in Flowering Plants)

22 March (Wednesday)– Examination II

27 March – 12 April Chapter 23 (Animal Origins and Diversity), Chapter 29 (Homeostasis), Chapter 36 (Water and Salt Balance), Chapter 34 (Nervous Systems), Chapter 31 (Breathing [time permitting])

30 March (Thursday) – Last day for student-initiated class withdrawal

17 April (Monday) – Examination III

19 April – 3 May - Chapter 40 (Animal Behavior), Chapter 41 (Biomes), Chapter 42 (Populations), Chapter 43 (Symbiosis), Chapter 44 (Communities), Chapter 45 (Ecosystems)

10 May (Wednesday) @ 4:00-6:45 PM – Required Comprehensive Final Examination (location: in regular classroom, (UGLC 346)

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