

BIOL 3321 Spring 2019 – CRN 11168  
TR 9:00-10:20 AM

*Dr. Lieb's note: It is has been made clear to me not to expect the return of Dr. Johnson prior to the end of the semester. Given the results of the first examination, I deem it necessary to modify the course grading structure and policies to enhance student learning experience within the context of my own methods of presenting evolutionary biology content, and to add opportunities for improving individual student grades for all enrolled students, given the time available until the end of the term.*

**Amendments and modifications to previous instructor's syllabus**  
**Effective Date: 16 October 2019**

**Present Instructor Information**

Dr. Carl S. Lieb

Office: "old" Biology Building, B-204

Office Hours: 10:30-11:30 AM MW, 10:30-11:30 AM TR, and by appointment

Telephone 747-6987      Email: [clieb@utep.edu](mailto:clieb@utep.edu).

Warning: The office telephone is the most reliable means for time-sensitive communication. If you insist on using email, and do not receive a reply within a few days, send it again (... and again).

**Textbook:** We will use the text originally assigned by Dr. Johnson [Coyne, J. A. *Why Evolution is True*] in a limited capacity. Questions on quizzes and examinations will come from the following assigned readings:

Chapter 5 "The Engine of Evolution" – previously assigned, relevant to Exam II

Chapter 6 "How Sex Drives Evolution" – read carefully before Quiz 1

Chapter 7: "The Origin of Species" – read and study as preparation for Quiz 4

Chapter 4: "The Geography of Life" – read carefully before Quiz 6

Chapter 8: "What About Us?" – read before 5 November, may be relevant to Exam IV

**Assessment of Learning:** Grades will be determined based upon four lecture examinations, six quizzes, and random checks of attendance.

The best three scores over the four examinations will contribute proportionately to the grades as follows: 30% each, comprising 90 % of final grade.

The best four quiz grades will be averaged, and if this average may be used to substitute for one of the four lecture examinations instead if it is of advantage to the student.

The examination dates are:

Exam I: 26 September (Thursday) – already completed

Exam II: 29 October 2019 (Tuesday)

Exam III: 14 November 2019 (Thursday)

Exam IV: 10 December 2019 (Thursday)

The weekly 10-question quizzes on Tuesdays will be over lecture material from the previous two class sessions and/or from assigned reading in the text. The purpose of these quizzes is to keep each student current with respect to their study of the class material, and to potentially help salvage a dismal performance on one examination.

**IMPORTANT:** Students **must be on time** (cutoff time is 9:02 AM) to take the quiz given on Tuesday mornings (no makeups, no matter how worthy the reason for missing it/being late); a quiz may be taken earlier if arrangements are made in advance, but not after it has been given to the class. Quiz dates are:

- 22 October Quiz 1
- 5 November Quiz 2
- 12 November Quiz 3
- 19 November Quiz 4
- 26 November Quiz 5
- 3 December Quiz 6

**Attendance Policy:** **On-time attendance at every class meeting by every student is expected.** Attendance will be checked randomly during the semester after 17 October, and being “caught” AWOL (Absent Without Leave, that is, an *unexcused* absence) will lose 2% of their attendance component of their final grade for each detected absence until that 10% is lost completely.

Also, present or not, each student is responsible for *all* materials presented, discussed, or assigned during class time.

**Examination No-show Policy:** A missed examination potentially contributes zero percent toward the student’s final course grade, and thus could represent a serious perturbation in his/her class progress and a catastrophe for grade expectations. These problems must be handled on a case-by-case basis at the discretion of Dr. Lieb, who **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 reasonably legitimate reason, he or she must contact Dr. Lieb by telephone (*not email!* @ 747-6987), either **BEFORE** the test or **WITHIN 48 HOURS following the time of the start of the examination and BEFORE the next class period** [for examinations II and III]; and 2) subsequently, the student will have one week to personally discuss the situation with Dr. Lieb and arrange an immediate disposition of the case.

**Drop Policy:** The student drop date is 1 November 2019. 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. The instructor will **NOT** drop a student who has not any examinations or quizzes, or has been recorded as coming to class even once. Withdrawal action must be taken by the student’s own initiative by this 1 November deadline. After 1 November, the office of the Dean of Science will not process “W”s except in cases of complete withdrawal from the University. Therefore, students who find themselves in academic trouble during the semester should promptly consult with Dr. Lieb so that their options can be explored (that is, don’t wait until the end of the semester to relate a tale of woe).

**Academic Integrity Policy:** Despite his outward cynicism, Dr. Lieb 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 student members of the class, and between the instructor and the students, is expected. Please use temperate language when speaking to one another and with Dr. Lieb.

Silence your cell phone before entering the classroom; please do not take calls during class time. Avoid all noisy endeavors not related to the matter at hand (talking, eating, snapping chewing gum, and, of course, snoring).

Your instructor will do his best to be there by the start of the class (9:00 AM), please emulate him with timely appearances as well. Specifically, leave your residence expecting road delays, from accidents or construction projects, and arrive on campus early enough to get a parking space. *Nevertheless, he would prefer you to be 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 room when class is in session, do so as quietly and quickly as possible

Timeliness is especially important for quizzes and examinations. In general, a late-coming student will not be allowed to take a quiz after 9:02 AM, or take an examination after the first student to complete it has left the room.

**Disability Policy:** If a student has or suspects he/she has a 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. The student is responsible for presenting to the instructor any CASS accommodation letters and instructions. *In these private matters, communicate with Dr. Lieb in person rather than use e-mail.*

**Military Call-up:** Your instructor understands that students engaged in military service may be called up and deployed at any time, an event that can affect their family members as well as themselves. Please consult with Dr. Lieb as soon as the orders come through, so arrangements for completion or suspension of academic work can be attempted.

### **Calendar for rest of semester (Fall 2019)**

**Content may fail to keep to this schedule as the semester further deteriorates, but the exam and quiz dates are fixed**

17 October – [Official start of the policies described above] Finish Group Selection, start Sexual Selection; Read Chapter 6 in *Why Evolution is True* text. [you have already been assigned Chapter 5, germane to Exam II]

22 October – Quiz 1; Finish Sexual Selection; Conventions associated with species names, distributional relationships, endemism

24 October – Review for second exam

29 October – **Exam II**

31 October – Species Concepts

1 November – Student initiated drop date

5 November – Quiz 2; Continue Species Concepts

6 November – Geographic polymorphisms (subspecies); begin speciation

12 November – Quiz 3; Review for third examination

14 November – Exam III; Read Chapter 7 *Why Evolution is True* text

19 November – Quiz 4 over Chapter 7 in *Why Evolution is True* text; continue with speciation

21 November – Finish speciation; begin other macroevolutionary phenomena

26 November – Quiz 5; finish macroevolutionary phenomena; read Chapter 4 in *Why Evolution is True* text

3 November – Quiz 6; evolutionary biogeography; Read Chapter 8 in *Why Evolution is True* text

5 November – Human evolution (time permitting)

10 December – Exam IV (during Final Exam Period, 10:00 AM- 12:45 PM)