

Biology 1305-General Biology
CRN # 24920
Spring, 2016

M/W 9:00-10:20 am
PSCI 115

Dr. Marc Cox 747-5429; mbcox@utep.edu
emergency contact: Annette Vasquez (915) 747-7479
Office Hours: Biosciences 3.128, open door policy

Course Objectives: This course is designed so that you will have an understanding of the following learning outcomes at the completion of the course.

- Demonstrate an understanding of the language of Biology.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the basic concepts of inorganic, organic and biochemistry as they apply to the biological sciences.
- Demonstrate the ability to predict the roles of atoms, molecules, organelles, genetics and environmental factors in regulating metabolism of prokaryotes, animals and plant cells.

Assessment of Course Objectives: A learning outcomes evaluation (self-assessment) will be handed out for you to complete at the same time that the course evaluation forms are completed.

Textbook: *Principles of Life* (REQUIRED) 2nd Ed. Hillis, Sadava, Hill and Price. 2014. (ISBN-10: 1464109478; ISBN-13: 978-1464109478)

Exams: There will be four exams throughout the semester followed by a comprehensive final exam. You will be allowed to drop your lowest exam score not including the final. Thus, only your three best exam scores plus the final exam score will be calculated into your final grade.

Grading: The regular exams (3) are worth 75% of your final grade. The final exam is worth 25% of your final grade. Grading scale: A=90-100%; B=80-89%; C=70-79%; D=60-69%; F is <60%.

Make-up Policy: There are no make-up exams except in extraordinary circumstances. If you have a serious illness, call me before the test is given and bring a doctor's written excuse to me. If you have a legitimate excuse for being out-of-town, make arrangements with me to take the exam before you leave.

Midterm Grades: Midterm grades will be e-mailed to Freshman students.

Attendance It is your responsibility to attend class regularly. If you have a serious illness or a legitimate excuse (includes military personnel called to active duty or training) for being out-of-town, make arrangements with me before you leave. Please do not wear hats in class during exams.

Drop Policy: April 1st is the last day students may drop with an automatic "W". Census day is February 3rd.

Academic Integrity Policy: UTEP's policies regarding academic integrity apply in this course. Cheating will be reported to the appropriate administrative officer. Failure to take the final exam may result in receiving an F in this course. Incompletes are only given in exceptional circumstances.

Civility Statement: Please be respectful of all students' right to learn without disruptions. In line with this statement please make an active effort to keep the talking to a minimum during lectures and presentations. Also make an active effort to either turn cell phones off or turn them to vibrate mode prior to the start of class.

Disability Statement: If you have a disability and need classroom accommodations, please contact The Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) at 747-5148, or by email to cass@utep.edu, or visit their office located in UTEP Union East, Room 106. For additional information, please visit the CASS website at www.sa.utep.edu/cass.

Course Schedule:

Date		Topic	Required Reading
1/20	W	Introduction & an Evolutionary Framework for Biology	Chapter 1
1/25	M	Chemistry and Energy	Chapter 2
1/27	W	Nucleic Acids, Proteins and Enzymes	Chapter 3
2/1	M	Nucleic Acids, Proteins and Enzymes	Chapter 3
2/3	W	REVIEW	
2/8	M	EXAM 1	
2/10	W	Cells: The Working Units of Life	Chapter 4
2/15	M	Cells: The Working Units of Life	Chapter 4
2/17	W	NO CLASS - UNIVERSITY CLOSED	
2/22	M	Cell Membranes and Signaling	Chapter 5
2/24	W	Cell Membranes and Signaling	Chapter 5
2/29	M	REVIEW	
3/2	W	EXAM 2	
3/7	M	SPRING BREAK – NO CLASS	
3/9	W	SPRING BREAK – NO CLASS	
3/14	M	Pathways that Harvest, Store Energy	Chapter 6
3/16	W	Pathways that Harvest, Store Energy	Chapter 6
3/21	M	The Cell Cycle and Cell Division	Chapter 7
3/23	W	The Cell Cycle and Cell Division	Chapter 7
3/28	M	REVIEW	
3/30	W	EXAM 3	
4/4	M	Inheritance, Genes, and Chromosomes	Chapter 8
4/6	W	Inheritance, Genes, and Chromosomes	Chapter 8
4/11	M	DNA and its Role in Heredity	Chapter 9
4/13	W	DNA and its Role in Heredity	Chapter 9
4/18	M	REVIEW	
4/20	W	EXAM 4	
4/25	M	From DNA to Protein: Gene Expression	Chapter 10
4/27	W	Gene Mutation and Molecular Medicine	Chapter 10
5/2	M	Regulation of Gene expression	Chapter 11
5/4	W	Regulation of Gene expression	Chapter 11

Final Examination: To Be Announced

GUIDELINES FOR SUCCESS:

1. Read the textbook actively before and after each lecture. Discuss what you are learning with friends and family. Take the practice exams in your text. Expect to spend at least 2 hours/lecture outside of class studying for this class.
2. Print out my PowerPoint lectures on Blackboard and bring them to class to add notes.
3. Access the following recommended websites:
 - Khan Academy: www.khanacademy.org
 - Crash Course at Youtube: www.youtube.com/user/crashcourse (Hank Green - vlogbrothers) Select Biology.
 - Ted Talks: www.ted.com/talks
4. Health Science students may contact Esther Valenzuela, the peer tutor at evalenzuela10@miners.utep.edu.
5. Computer Lab resources with computers and printers include ACES, Physical Science Lobby; Library 300, Technical Support Help Desk; LACIT, 4th Floor, L.A.
6. Use the websites provided in the first page of this syllabus.
7. Working in Study Groups and tutoring are highly recommended.