

HUMAN BIOLOGY (BIOL 1304, CRN# 21078)

Course syllabus: Spring 2024

INSTRUCTOR: Paul Rafael B. Sabandal, Ph.D.

- Email: via the Blackboard “Email the instructor” link (preferred) or pbsabandal@utep.edu
- Office hours: Tue and Wed 10:30 AM – 11:30 AM or by appointment
- Office location: Bioscience Research Building (BRB) 3.146

COURSE MEETINGS: Mon and Wed 12:00 PM – 1:20 PM; Liberal Arts Building 323

PREREQUISITES: None

CREDIT HOURS: 3.0

Course Description: Human Biology covers the basic and fundamental biological concepts dealing with the continuity of life, our genetic heritage, reproduction, nutrition, and basic life processes of humans.

TEXTBOOK: Human Biology by Starr and McMillan, 11th edition 2016

EXAMS, IN-CLASS ACTIVITIES, and GRADING POLICY:

Exam 1:	22.5% of final grade
Exam 2:	22.5%
Exam 3:	22.5%
Exam 4:	22.5%
In-class quizzes	10%

Final grades will be assigned as follows:

- A = 90 – 100 %
- B = 80 – 89 %
- C = 70 – 79 %
- D = 60 – 69 %
- F = 0 – 59 %

EXAM CONDITIONS:

- There will be four exams during the semester, and all will be counted towards the final course grade. In short, no exam grades will be dropped.
- All exams are “take-home” and are due 3 days after its posting (for example: if exam is posted on Monday, the responses are due Thursday). All students will have 3 full days to complete and submit each exam.
- All exams will be available to download from Blackboard. The exams consist of multiple

choice-, true/false-, and short answer-/free response- type questions. Exam length ranges from 50 – 60 questions.

- Only the material covered in class lectures will be included in the exams.
- Late submissions within 1 week of the deadline will receive half-credit only and beyond 1 week of the deadline will not receive any credit
- If any exam is missed, only a serious personal emergency will be considered as an excuse, and you must apply in writing (via e-mail) to the instructor to explain why the exam was missed.

IN-CLASS ACTIVITY CONDITIONS:

- Beginning lecture session 2, there will be an in-class activity in the form of a short quiz. It must be taken and turned in during the class meeting. It will be on the material covered on that day/lecture.
- It will be a single question of either multiple choice-, true/false-, and/or short answer-/free response- type.
- There will be 25 in-class quizzes. Only 20 out of the 25 quizzes will count towards the final grade. You can miss 5 quizzes and still receive the full 10% value towards your final course grade. Thus, no make-ups will be allowed for any in-class activity missed.

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

- I will not check attendance; however, missing course meetings generally correlates with poor course performance. Thus, attending class regularly is highly recommended.
- This course will provide a broad overview of several basic biology concepts and principles spanning cell structure and function, and genetics. Students are responsible for attending class regularly and knowing what takes place during classes. This includes material covered during lectures, announcements, handouts, changes in the syllabus and schedule, etc. If you must miss a class, you need to make an effort to learn what occurred during your absence – please come to office hours as needed.

COURSE DROP and INCOMPLETE GRADE POLICY:

- The last day for you to withdraw from any course for the Spring 2024 semester with an automatic "W" is on March 28. It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw from a course before the drop deadline. If you have any questions, please meet with me during office hours. UTEP regulations state: "Student-initiated drops are permitted after this date, but the student is not guaranteed a grade of W. The faculty member of record will issue a grade of either W or F". For this course, it is my policy that if a student decides to drop after the drop deadline, they will not be assigned a "W" grade.
- All grades of Incomplete must be accompanied by an Incomplete Contract that has been signed by the instructor, student, departmental chair, and the dean. A grade of Incomplete is only used in extraordinary circumstances confined to a limited event such as a missed exam. If the student has missed a significant amount of work (e.g. multiple exams), a grade of Incomplete is not appropriate and will not be given.

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Course calendar/schedule: Spring 2024

Dates	Information on lectures and on exams
January 17	Lecture 1: Course introduction and Human Biology overview
January 22	Lecture 2: Human Biology overview; Chemistry of Life
January 24	Lecture 3: Chemistry of Life
January 29	Lecture 4: Cells
January 31	Lecture 5: Cell; Tissues, Organs, and Organ systems
February 5	Lecture 6: Tissues, Organs, and Organ systems
February 7	Exam 1: covers lectures 1 – 6; Exam 1 response due February 10
February 12	Lecture 7: Skeletal system
February 14	Lecture 8: Skeletal system
February 19	Lecture 9: Muscular system
February 21	Lecture 10: Muscular system
February 26	Lecture 11: Nervous system
February 28	Lecture 12: Nervous system
March 4	Exam 2: covers lectures 7 – 12; Exam 2 response due March 7
March 6	Lecture 13: Reproductive system
March 11	Spring Break >>> No class lecture
March 13	Spring Break >>> No class lecture
March 18	Lecture 14: Reproductive system; Development and Aging
March 20	Lecture 15: Development and Aging
March 25	Lecture 16: Genetics
March 27	Lecture 17: Genetics
April 1	Lecture 18: Cell reproduction
April 3	Lecture 19: Cell reproduction; Principles of Evolution
April 8	Exam 3: covers lectures 13 – 19; Exam 3 response due April 11
April 10	Lecture 20: Circulatory system
April 15	Lecture 21: Circulatory system; Immune system
April 17	Lecture 22: Immune system; Respiratory system
April 22	Lecture 23: Respiratory system
April 24	Lecture 24: Digestive system
April 29	Lecture 25: Digestive system; Urinary system
May 1	Lecture 26: Urinary system
May 6 – 10 (Finals week)	Exam 4: covers lectures 20 – 26; Exam 4 response due May 9

Note: The schedule is subject to change - check blackboard for updates/announcements

Course drop/withdrawal deadline: March 28, 2024 (Thursday)

ADDITIONAL COURSE INFORMATION and POLICIES

ACCESSIBILITY STATEMENT:

- As per Section 504 of the Vocational Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, if a student needs an accommodation then the Office of Center for Accommodation and Support Services (CASS) located at UTEP needs to be contacted. Further info can be found in: <https://www.utep.edu/student-affairs/cass/>
- If you have a condition that may affect your ability to perform successfully in this course, please meet with the instructor and/or the director of the Center for Accommodation and Support Services (CASS). You may contact CASS at 915-747-5148 or cass@utep.edu .
- Individuals with disabilities have the right to equal access and opportunity. It is the student's responsibility to contact the instructor and The Center for Accommodation and Support Services (CASS) at The University of Texas at El Paso.

ACADEMIC/SCHOLASTIC INTEGRITY:

- Academic dishonesty is an assault upon the basic integrity and meaning of a University.
- Cheating, plagiarism and collusion in dishonest activities are serious acts which erode the University's educational and research roles and cheapen the learning experience not only for the perpetrators, but also for the entire community.
- It is expected that UTEP students will understand and subscribe to the ideal of academic integrity and that they will be willing to bear individual responsibility for their work.
- Materials (written or otherwise) submitted to fulfill academic requirements must represent a student's own efforts.
- Any act of academic dishonesty attempted by a UTEP student is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Violations will be referred to the Dean of Students Office for possible disciplinary action. Students may be suspended or expelled from UTEP for such actions.

TECHNICAL and BLACKBOARD SUPPORT:

- The University of Texas at El Paso provides free 24/7 Helpdesk support to students and faculty. The Helpdesk can provide answers to questions about using Blackboard, technology services and technical support.