

GENERAL BIOLOGY (BIOL 1305)
Course Syllabus, spring 2023
CRN: (22053)
TR: 3:00-04:20 pm
Undergraduate Learning Center 116

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TEXTBOOK– *Principles of Life*

First day of classes	Tuesday, January 17th
Census Day:	Feb 1st
Spring break	March 13-17
Course Drop Deadline:	Mar 30th
Last day of classes	May 4th
Final Exam:	Thursday, May 11th, starts at 4 pm

OBJECTIVES:

Upon completion of this class, students should be able to:

- Understand the basic structure of atoms and molecules
- Understand the basic structure and physiology of the cell
- Explain the connection between energy, enzymes, and metabolism in living cells
- Describe the basic structure of DNA and RNA.
- Understand the basics of Genes, Genomes, and Heredity.

COURSE POLICIES:

COVID-19:

Please stay home if you have been diagnosed with COVID-19 or are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms. If you are feeling unwell, please let me know as soon as possible, so that we can work on appropriate accommodations. If you have tested positive for COVID-19, you are encouraged to report your results to covidaction@utep.edu, so that the Dean of Students Office can provide you with support and help with communication with your professors. The Student Health Center is equipped to provide COVID 19 testing.

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention recommends that people in areas of substantial or high COVID-19 transmission wear face masks when indoors in groups of people. The best way that Miners can take care of Miners is to get the vaccine. If you still need the vaccine, it is widely available in the El Paso area, and will be available at no charge on campus during the first week of classes. For more information about the current rates, testing, and vaccinations, please visit epstrong.org.

Class participation:

You are expected to attend the in-person or synchronous online sessions, be prepared to answer questions about the assigned readings or other materials. Review the chapter slides posted on Blackboard before and after each lecture.

E-mail and Blackboard:

You are required to provide the teaching team with a UTEP e-mail address and check your UTEP e-mail and Blackboard daily. We will use your UTEP e-mail to contact you and you will use your UTEP e-mail to contact us as well. *Do not use Blackboard for e-mail.* You will receive a response to your queries by emails usually within 24 hours during the weekdays.

Dropping the course:

Students may drop the class and receive a W (withdrawal) on their transcript prior to March 30th, 2023. You must consult the instructor prior to dropping. Due to the University's six-drop rule, dropping the course may not be in your best interest. After March 30th, a drop will result in an F on your transcript. Receiving either a W or an F in any course may prevent you from meeting the satisfactory Academic Progress requirements necessary to receive financial aid.

Student Conduct:

Each student is responsible for notice of and compliance with the provisions of the Regents' [Rules and Regulations](http://www.utsystem.edu/bor/rules/homepage.htm), available at <http://www.utsystem.edu/bor/rules/homepage.htm>. All students are expected to behave as courteous, responsible adults. We will have frequent discussions and students are expected to tolerate and respect the opinions of others.

Cellular and electronic devices:

Cell phones and other electronic and recording devices must be turned off during class time to minimize classroom disruptions and protect the integrity of test-taking situations. This means you cannot make calls, send text messages, or use social media during class. You may use your laptop or tablet to take notes in class, but this privilege will be revoked if the devices are used inappropriately. Students who fail to follow this rule may incur disciplinary action up to and including dismissal from the class and upon repeated offenses, the course.

Disability accommodations:

If you have or suspect you might have a disability and need an 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.

Academic Integrity:

All graded assignments must be entirely the work of the *individual* student. *"Plagiarism" means the appropriation, buying, receiving as a gift, or obtaining by any means another's work and the unacknowledged submission or incorporation of it in one's own academic work offered for credit, or using work in a paper or assignment for which the student had received credit in another course without direct permission of all involved instructors* (from the Regents' [Rules and Regulations](#)). "Plagiarism" is a serious violation of university policy and will not be tolerated. All cases of suspected plagiarism will be reported to the Dean of Students for further review.

Campus Carry:

Persons holding a Concealed Handgun License can lawfully carry their handgun into a UTEP classroom if the gun remains concealed. Open carry remains prohibited on campus. In other words, none of us should see (or be able to tell that there is) a gun at UTEP. Call the University Police at 747-5611 or dial 911 if you see any individual on campus with a handgun or other type of weapon. For more information on campus carry, see [<http://sa.utep.edu/campuscarry/>]; for more information on overall campus safety, see [<http://admin.utep.edu/emergency>].

Military Statement:

If you are a military student with the potential of being called to military service and/or training during the course of the semester, you are encouraged to contact us no later than January 27.

EXAMINATION PROCEDURE:

- There will be three on-line exams during the semester. The exams will be on blackboard and you will have access to the exams at 3 PM on the day of the exam.
- You must take all three exams. If you miss any of the exams without a university accepted excuse, you may be withdrawn from the course.
- There will be a comprehensive on-line **Final Examination** of all the chapters that we have covered in class (more details about the Final exam will be provided later).
- Quizzes through blackboard (usually on Thursdays).
- Attendance to all lecture sessions is required (use I-clicker within first 10 minutes of class).
- In order to pass this course successfully, it is important that you come to class, review all the provided material, in time, so you are fully prepared for the exams. It is very important that you **check Blackboard (Announcements section) and UTEP email every day.**
- No make-up exams will be given for reasons other than illness (doctor's note required), or when a student is on official University business (documentation is required in advance). If a student has an emergency situation the date of the exam, it is the student's responsibility to let the instructors know immediately the same day or the next, and provide documentation.

GRADING POLICY

A = 90-100
B = 80-89
C = 70-79
D = 60-69
F = Below 60

GRADE DISTRIBUTION

Exams (1, 2, & 3)	45%
Final Exams	25%
Quizzes	20%
Attendance	10%

THINGS NOT ALLOWED IN THE CLASSROOM:

- Talking, cell phones
- Waking out before the class is dismissed
- Listening to music, earphones
- Reading newspapers or any other materials not assigned for the class
- Taking a nap

TENTATIVE CALENDAR:

LECTURE	DATE	TOPIC	Required Reading
1-2	Jan 17, 19	Principles of Life	Chapter 1
3-4	Jan 24, 26	Life's Chemistry and the Importance of Water	Chapter 2
5-6	Jan 31, Feb 2	Macromolecules	Chapter 3
	Feb 7	Review	
	Feb 9	EXAM-1	
7-8	Feb 14, 16	Cell Structure and Membranes	Chapter 4
9-10	Feb 21, 23	Cell Metabolism: Synthesis and Degradation of Biological Molecules	Chapter 5
11-12	Feb 28, March 2	Cell Signals and Responses	Chapter 6
	March 7	Review	
	March 9	EXAM-2	
	March 14,16	NO CLASS	Spring Break
13-14	March 21, 23	The Cell Cycle and Cell Division	Chapter 7
15-16	March 28, 30	Inheritance, Genes, and Chromosomes	Chapter 8
17-18	April 4, 6	DNA and its Role in Heredity	Chapter 9; drop deadline
	April 11	Review	
	April 13	EXAM-3	
19-20	April 18, 20	From DNA to Protein	Chapter 10
21-22	April 25, 27	Regulation of gene expression	Chapter 11
23-24	May 2, 4	Genomes	Chapter 12
	May 8	Review	Online slides
	May 11	FINAL EXAM	

Note: This is a tentative syllabus and may be changed as necessary at the discretion of the instructors.