

Biology 1407-A5
Blinn College – Bryan Campus
Course Information Sheet
Fall 2009

Instructor: Dwight Bohlmeyer
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Course Description:

An introductory survey of current biological concepts that includes evolution, biological diversity, ecology and structure and function of organisms. Three class hours and three laboratory hours per week. Credit: Four semester hours.

Core Curriculum Course:

This is a course in the 42-hour Core Curriculum of Blinn College. As such, students will develop proficiency in appropriate intellectual competencies, exemplary educational objectives and general perspectives. The URL of the Blinn College core curriculum web site is:
www.blinn.edu/corecurriculum.htm

Course Objectives and Student Learning Outcomes:

Lecture Objectives:

1. Differentiate between science and other fields of knowledge and learning.
2. Explain the mechanisms and role of evolution in the history of life on Earth.
3. Describe the classification of living organisms.
4. Identify and characterize the major taxonomic categories.
5. Describe the structure and life processes of plants.
6. Describe the structure and life processes of animals.
7. Describe the interactions of organisms with their environment.

Laboratory Objectives:

1. Practice safe procedures in the laboratory.
2. Perform problem solving experiments.
3. Use laboratory equipment in a correct manner.
4. Relate biological concepts to laboratory activities.

Class Policies:

Attendance: The College District believes that class attendance is essential for student success; therefore, students are required to promptly and regularly attend all their classes. Each class meeting builds the foundation for subsequent class meetings. Without full participation and regular class attendance, students shall find themselves at a severe disadvantage for achieving success in college. Class participation shall constitute at least ten percent of the final course grade. It is the responsibility of each faculty member, in consultation with the division chair, to determine how

participation is achieved in his or her class. Faculty will require students to regularly attend class and will keep a record of attendance from the first day of class and/or the first day the student's name appears on the roster through final examinations. If a student has one week's worth of absences during the semester, he/she will be sent an e-mail by the College, via their **Blinn e-mail account** requiring the student to contact his/her instructor and schedule a conference immediately to discuss his/her attendance issues. Should the student subsequently accumulate two weeks worth of unexcused absences, he/she will be administratively withdrawn from class. There are three forms of excused absence officially designated by Blinn College: (1) Observance of religious holy days: The student should notify his/her instructor(s) not later than the 15th day of the semester concerning the specific date(s) that the student will be absent for any religious holy day(s); and (2) Representing Blinn College at an official institutional function and (3) official involvement in a high school activity for "dual credit" students. Other excuses will be considered and may be considered excusable at the instructor's discretion, with documentation. **Missing lecture or lab or both will count as one absence.**

Dropping: If a student chooses to drop the course, it is that student's responsibility to complete a drop order at the Office of Enrollment Services. Failure to do so could result in a grade of F in the course. The last day to withdraw with a "W" is Friday, November 20th.

Eating and drinking are not allowed in classrooms or laboratories.

Dishonesty Statement: Blinn College does not tolerate cheating, plagiarism or other acts of dishonesty. Definitions of these acts and procedures for dealing with them are described in "Scholastic Dishonesty" in the Blinn College Student Handbook, copies of which are available at the information desk in the administration building.

Civility: Members of the Blinn College community, which includes faculty, staff and students, are expected to act honestly and responsibly in all aspects of campus life. Blinn College holds all members accountable for their actions and words. Therefore, all members should commit themselves to behave in a manner that recognizes personal respect and demonstrates concern for the personal dignity, rights, and freedoms of every member of the College community, including respect for College property and the physical and intellectual property of others. Civility applies to attire as well as language and behavior. Please dress appropriately for the academic classroom and laboratory. **If a student is asked to leave the classroom because of uncivil behavior, the student may not return to that class until he or she arranges a conference with the instructor. It is the student's responsibility to arrange for this conference.**

ADA Statement: Students with physical or learning disabilities must present documentation from the Office of Disability Services (room 157, Science Bldg) to receive accommodation on exams and assignments. Accommodation is not retroactive.

The above requirements and policies are discussed more fully in the Blinn College Student Handbook which, by reference, is incorporated into this information. Please obtain and read.

Course Requirements:

Some laboratory activities will take place outside the classroom. Students will be notified during the previous class period to wear the appropriate clothing for any outdoor activities.

Textbooks and other Required Materials:

Required Textbook: *Biology: Life on Earth With Physiology* 8th ed. 2008. Teresa Audesirk, Gerald Audesirk, and Bruce E. Byers. Pearson Prentice Hall, Upper Saddle River, NJ 07458.

Required Laboratory Manual: *Biology, Biology 1407 V2*, 9th ed. 2007. Sylvia.S. Mader. McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc., 1221 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10020

Other Required Materials: Remote keypad and enrollment code for the eInstruction Classroom Performance System. Register your keypad at www.einstruction.com

Optional Lab Supplement: *A Photographic Atlas for the Biology Laboratory*, 3rd ed. 1996. K.M. Van De Graaff & J.L. Crowley.

Criteria for Grading:

Lecture Exams: There will be four lecture exams during the semester plus a comprehensive final exam. Exams can include multiple choice, true/false, fill-in-the-blank, short answer and essay questions. Make-up exams are only offered to students with an excused absence. Excused absences include those officially recognized by Blinn College, plus a death in the family, or an illness with a doctor's certification. To arrange for a make-up exam see me during the first class period following your absence.

An unexcused absence from an exam will result in a grade of zero.

Laboratory Exams: There will be three lab exams. **An unexcused absence from an exam will result in a grade of zero. No make-up exams will be offered for lab exams.**

Laboratory Work & Quizzes: Most lab exercises must be completed during the lab period and turned in at the end of the period. Late work turned in within one week of the assignment will be accepted for half credit. Periodic quizzes will cover recent topics and assigned readings from the lecture and the laboratory. A grade of zero will be recorded for missed quizzes unless an approved excuse is submitted. **No make-up is offered for missed quizzes.**

Assigned Readings: One or two journal articles will be assigned for reading outside of the classroom period. A quiz over the article will be given the week after the reading is assigned.

Service Learning Project or Optional Term Paper: Students will complete 10 hours of service learning at the Aquatic Education Center & participate in one field trip. Students opting out of the service learning project are required to write a 10 page natural history paper.

Point Distribution:	Lecture exams (4 exams x 100 points each)	400 points
	Final exam	200 points
	Lab exams (3 exams x 80 points each)	240 points
	Service Learning Projects or Optional Assignments	60 points
	Quizzes, Lab Work & Assigned Readings	<u>100 points</u>
		1,000 points

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Course Content & Class Schedule

Week	Chapter	Lecture Topic	Laboratory	Laboratory Topic
1 Sept. 1 Sept. 3	14	Introduction Principles of Evolution	2	Laboratory Safety Microscope
2 Sept. 8 Sept. 10	15 16	Population Genetics & Evolution Speciation	12 13	Evolution Population Genetics
3 Sept. 15 Sept. 17	17 18	The History of Life on Earth Systematics	33 38	Symbiosis Ecosystems
4 Sept. 22 Sept. 24	19	Exam I 9/22/09 Viruses	14	Taxonomy Lab Exam I 9/24/09
5 Sept. 29 Oct. 1	19 20	Prokaryotes Protists	14.1 14.1	Bacteria Bacteria
6 Oct. 6 Oct. 8	20 22	Protists Fungi	14.2 14.2	Protozoa Algae & Slime Molds
7 Oct. 13 Oct. 15	21	Exam II 10/13/09 Plant Diversity	15 16	Fungi Seedless Plants
8 Oct. 20 Oct. 22	43 42	Plant Reproduction Plant Anatomy & Nutrient Transport	17 18	Seed Plants Plant Structures
9 Oct. 27 Oct. 29	44	Plant Responses Exam III 10/29/09	22	Group Activity-Plants Intro to Invertebrates
10 Nov. 3 Nov. 5	23 23	Animal Diversity Invertebrates I	23	Lab Exam II 11/3/09 Protostomes
11 Nov. 10 Nov. 12	23 24	Invertebrates II Chordates	24 25	Deuterostomes Animal Organization Group Activity-Animal Phyla
12 Nov. 17 Nov. 19	31 34	Organization/Homeostasis in Animals Digestive Systems	26 27	Mammalian Anatomy I Mammalian Anatomy II
13 Nov. 24 Nov. 26		Exam IV 11/24/09 Holiday	27	Mammalian Anatomy II
14 Dec. 1 Dec. 3	32 33	Circulation Respiration		Group Activity-Fetal Pig Lab Exam III 12/3/09
15 Dec. 8 Dec. 10	38 39	Nervous System Muscles & Skeletons		Reproduction Urinary System
16 Dec. 15		Final Exam 7:45- 9:45 am		

