



BIOL 1111 - Introductory Biology I Course Syllabus – Spring 2012

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COURSE NUMBER AND TITLE: BIOL 1111, Introductory Biology I

CREDIT HOURS: 3.0 semester credit hours

CATALOG DESCRIPTION: The biology sequence (BIOL 1111-1112) covers basic and biological chemistry, cellular organization and function, cell division, bioenergetics, ecology and organ/system physiology as well as Mendelian genetics, molecular genetics, biotechnology, and evolutionary principles. BIOL 1111 includes the basic and biological chemistry, cellular organization and function, cell division, bioenergetics, ecology and selected topics in organ/system physiology.

This sequence is designed for non-science majors. The biology sequence of BIOL 1107 and 1108 is the sequence advised for science majors and most medical majors. If you have questions about the appropriate sequence for your major, please ask your instructor.

COURSE CO-REQUISITE: BIOL 1111L, Introductory Biology Laboratory I (1 semester credit hour)

Note: If a student withdraws from BIOL 1111L, the student must also withdraw from BIOL1111. If a student withdraws from BIOL1111, the student must also withdraw from BIOL 1111L.

This class is the online version of biology 1111.

By registering for this online class, you must participate in online discussions and other online activities.

NOTEBOOK COMPUTER REQUIREMENT: Each CSU student is required to have ready access throughout the semester to a notebook computer that meets faculty-approved hardware and software requirements for the student's academic program. Students will sign a statement attesting to such access. For further information on CSU's Official Notebook Computer Policy, please go to <http://itpchoice.clayton.edu/policy.htm>.

COMPUTER SKILL PREREQUISITES:

- Able to use the Windows™ operating system.
- Able to use a the Microsoft Word™ word processing program.
- Able to send and receive e-mail using the Outlook™ or Outlook Express™ program.
- Able to use a Web browser.
- Able be proficient in the use of GA View, including taking quizzes, submitting assignments, and using the discussion board
- If you are unable to perform these computer tasks, it is HIGHLY recommended that you do not take this online class. Biology 1111 is also taught as a traditional face-to-face class and this format will be better suited for you.

- There will be an orientation meeting on Saturday prior to the first week of class in which various features of Georgia View will be explained. However, if you are NOT highly computer literate, then you should NOT take the class online.

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COURSE OBJECTIVES:

- To understand the basic concepts of chemistry which are applicable to introductory biology.
 - To understand the principles of evolution and the means by which evolution is studied.
 - To describe the structure and explain the function of the cellular organelles.
 - To describe the processes involved in cellular division.
 - To understand general chemical and energetic processes that occur within most eukaryotic cells.
 - To understand ecosystem structure and function.
 - To understand how the scientific method was employed in acquiring biological information.
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STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

General education outcomes:

- Communication: knowledge base. BIOL 1111 will provide knowledge base information necessary for communication of information concerning biological chemistry, cellular biology and ecology.

Knowledge Base

Description: Answers to quiz and test questions must convey knowledge of biology that is appropriate to the question.

Evidence: Samples of student work on tests.

Awareness of Recipient

Description: Communication of solutions to quiz and examination problems must be understandable to a trained biologist.

Evidence: Samples of student work on tests.

Organization

Description: Logical and organized thinking is required.

Evidence: Samples of student work on examinations.

Mechanics/Delivery

Description: Solutions to quiz and examination problems must be communicated using proper biological vocabulary.

Evidence: Samples of student work on examinations.

Style

Description: Given that most exams in this course are multiple choice in format, there is no significant evaluation of style, other than proper bubbling of scantron forms.

Evidence: Scantron forms are checked by students for scanning errors. Any detected are reported to the instructor.

- Critical thinking: all components (question/issue, method, evidence, conclusion). BIOL 1111 will require application of knowledge base information to understand biological relationships.

Question/Issue

Description: Given student unfamiliarity with biological concepts, the instructor in all introductory biology courses generally provides the question/ issue component.

Students are encouraged to ask questions about biological concepts.

Evidence: None.

Method

Description: Given an instructor provided question, students are required to determine appropriate biological concepts to address the problem at hand.

Evidence: Samples of student work on examinations.

Evidence

Description: Non-quantitative critical thinking is evaluated through conceptual multiple-choice questions or short answer questions.

Evidence: Samples of student work on examinations.

Conclusion

Description: Conclusions that are biologically correct and reasonable are required.

Evidence: Samples of student work on examinations.

TEACHER EDUCATION STANDARDS: The content of this course syllabus correlates to education standards established by national and state education governing agencies, accrediting agencies and learned society/ professional education associations. Please refer to the course correlation matrices located at the following web site: <http://a-s.clayton.edu/teachered/Standards%20and%20Outcomes.htm>

Instructor Information:

Dr. Samantha Fowler

Office: NBS 165

Phone: 678-466-4816

email: Samanthafowler@clayton.edu

Internet address: <http://a-s.clayton.edu/sfowler4/SamanthaFowler.default.htm>

Office Hours: <http://a-s.clayton.edu/sfowler4/Schedule.html>

Class Meetings:

Section	CRN	Days	Times	Instructor
90	25502	online	Class will be held asynchronously	S. Fowler

Mandatory Orientation: Saturday, January 7 from 1:00 - 2:00 pm in NBS 125. This is a required meeting. If you cannot attend this meeting or the midterm or final exams, you need to sign up for another section of this class.

Midterm examination: will be on **Saturday, February 25 from 1:00 – 2:15 pm in NBS 125.**

Final examination: will be on **Saturday, May 5 from 1:00 – 3:00 pm in NBS 125**

TEXTBOOK INFORMATION: Shuster, M., J. Vigna, G. Sinha, & M. Tontono. *Biology for a changing world*. WH Freeman and Scientific American 2012.
ISBN: 978-0716773245

Chapters to be covered: 1-13

Evaluation:

Item	Points	Total points
weekly quizzes	10 each (top 12 quizzes)	120
weekly assignments	10 each	140
2 mandatory discussion starters	20 each	40
6 mandatory discussion participation	10 each	60
Current event	40	40
Midterm exam	100	100
Final exam	100	100
TOTAL POINTS		600

Grading:

Your final grade will be determined as follows:

Grade	Points
A	540 - 600
B	480 - 539
C	420 - 479
D	360 - 419
F	below 360

Quizzes/Assignments:

There will be 14 weekly quizzes and 14 weekly assignments given in this class. I will drop your two lowest quiz grades so that only 12 will count. No assignment grades will be dropped. Quizzes and assignments are worth 10 points each.

The format of the quizzes/assignments may vary. Online quizzes will be predominantly multiple choice questions posted under the learning module for the week. You will only have one attempt to complete these questions so make sure that you are careful when you post your answers. You will not be able to correct them if you made a mistake.

Submission of quizzes/assignments/papers:

All quizzes, assignments and papers must be submitted by the due date, which is Saturday 5:00 PM of the week that it is due. I do NOT accept late quizzes or assignments. Problems with an internet connection the day an assignment or quiz is due is NOT a valid excuse for not doing the assignment on time. I suggest that you do the assignments and quizzes before the day it is due.

All quizzes and assignments must be submitted through Georgia View via the assignment area or via the assessment tab. For quizzes, you will only have one attempt to complete these questions so make sure that you are careful when you post your answers. You will not be able to correct them if you made a mistake. For assignments, any text that you enter in the submission text box will lose all formatting when you click submit. Therefore, you have two options when you submit the assignment.

1. Submit all assignments as attachments or
2. Put <p> before each paragraph so that when it is submitted, it is readable in a formatted fashion.

If your assignment is difficult to read, I will return it to you and you will receive a grade of 0 on it.

Current Event Assignment:

You will turn in a 1-3 page (double spaced, 12 point Times New Roman font) analysis of a current event that relates biology to your major or career goals. Your current event must come from a reliable source and be no older than Jan. 1, 2011.

Format:

- Introduction: Name the full source (title, date, author, and source) of the current event and why you chose this article.
- Body: Describe the current event in your own words. (Please see the course syllabus regarding the policy on plagiarism)
- Discussion: Discuss how the current event is relevant to you personally and/or to society as a whole.

Grading:

The assignment is worth 40 points and is due no later than 5:00 pm, Saturday, March 17. Assignments may be turned in early, but late assignments will not be accepted no matter what the reason.

Format	Paper is 1-3 pages, double spaced, 12 point Times New Roman Font	0 – 4 points
Introduction	Source is fully cited, scientifically sound, and no older than 8/1/2009. Reasons why this particular article was chosen are clearly articulated. The topic clearly relates biology to the student's major.	0 – 12 points
Body	The current event is accurately described in the student's own words. Note: Any form of plagiarism will result in severe consequences	0 – 12 points
Discussion	The student gives a thoughtful, detailed analysis on how the article is relevant to him/her and/or to society as a whole.	0 – 12 points
Total Points		0 - 40 points

Discussions:

In this class, you will need to participate in asynchronous group discussions. This means that not everyone will be participating at the same time (i.e. these discussions will not take place in a chat room.) Instead, you will post a response and either the instructor or other students will respond at a later time. You may participate in these discussions 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. You **MUST** initiate at least two discussions and participate in at least six that others have started. Each discussion starter is worth 20 points, and discussion participations are worth 10 points. Discussion starters should somehow relate to the current topic in class and may not repeat a topic already posted. See the course schedule for due dates. No credit will be given for exceeding the due date.

The discussions are a key component for this class because they are intended to provoke thoughtful discussion on biological issues that anyone (i.e. not just biologists) could feasibly encounter in life. Thus, discussions should relate the material we have covered to society. Initial posts and responses should be thoughtful. A mere, "I agree" response will not receive credit. Discussions may revolve around a controversial topic; however you **MUST** phrase your posts so that they do not seem judgmental or offensive toward others. Consideration and respect for your classmates are mandatory. Those that do not adhere to this will have their post deleted and not receive credit. Continued disrespect will result in disciplinary action.

Questions

There will be an area in the Georgia View discussion area where you can anonymously ask questions related to course material or policies. Please post these questions here so that other students may read the answers. If you have more personal questions, then please e-mail me privately.

Course Schedule*:

Week of:	Topic	Chapters	What is due (by 5:00 PM Saturday)
Jan 9	Required orientation meeting, Saturday, January 7 from 1:00 – 2:00 in NBS 125. Bring your computer with you. Process of Science	1	Weekly quiz; weekly assignment
Jan 16 (MLK 16 th)	Chemistry & Molecules of Life	2	Weekly quiz; weekly assignment
Jan 23	Cell Function & Structure	3	Weekly quiz; weekly assignment
Jan 30	Nutrition, Metabolism, Enzymes	4	Weekly quiz; weekly assignment
Feb 6	Energy flow & Photosynthesis	5	Weekly quiz; weekly assignment
Feb 13	Dietary energy & Cellular Respiration	6	Weekly quiz; weekly assignment
Feb 20	Midterm Exam, Saturday, February 25 from 1:00 – 2:15 pm in NBS 125	1-6	None
Feb 27	DNA Structure & Replication	7	Weekly quiz; weekly assignment; first discussion starter and discussion participations 1 - 3
March 2	Last Day to Drop w/o Academic Penalty		
Mar 5	Spring Break		

Mar 12	Genes to Proteins,	8	Weekly quiz; weekly assignment; Current event
Mar 19	Cell Division & Mitosis	9	Weekly quiz; weekly assignment
Mar 26	Genetic mutations and cancer,	10	Weekly quiz; weekly assignment
Apr 2	Single-Gene Inheritance & Meiosis	11	Weekly quiz; weekly assignment
Apr 9	Single-Gene Inheritance & Meiosis, Complex inheritance	11, 12	Weekly quiz; weekly assignment
Apr 16	Complex Inheritance	12	Weekly quiz; weekly assignment
Apr 23	Stem cells and cell differentiation	13	Weekly quiz; weekly assignment; Second discussion starter and discussion participations 4 - 6
Finals week	FINAL EXAM: Saturday, May 5 from 1:00 – 3:00 pm in NBS 125	all	None

*This schedule is tentative and may change.

Course Policies:

Students must abide by policies in the [Clayton State University Student Handbook](#), and the [Basic Undergraduate Student Responsibilities](#).

All assignments MUST be submitted online through Georgia View. You may NOT e-mail them to the instructor. If you do, you will receive a grade of 0.

Your computer or internet connection not working is NOT a valid reason for not submitting an assignment, quiz, or participating in a discussion. You signed up for an online class. One of the expectations is that you will have a working computer and internet connection. If the assignment or quiz is not received by the deadline, you will receive a grade of 0.

An assignment may need to be submitted with an attachment in order to maintain proper formatting. If you do not use an attachment when requested and your assignment is unreadable, you will receive a grade of 0.

All assignments and discussions are expected by the due date. Late quizzes, assignments, or discussions will NOT be accepted late.

Behavior which disrupts the teaching–learning process will not be tolerated. While a variety of behaviors can be disruptive in an online classroom setting, particularly on the discussion boards, more serious examples include belligerent, abusive, profane, and/or threatening behavior. A student who fails to respond to reasonable faculty direction regarding behavior and/or behavior while participating in class activities may be dismissed from class. A student who is dismissed is entitled to due process and will be afforded such rights as soon as possible following dismissal. If found in violation, a student may be administratively withdrawn and may receive a grade of WF. Please refer to <http://a-s.clayton.edu/DisruptiveClassroomBehavior.htm> for more information. Regular participation in this class is highly recommended. Announcements concerning changes in assignment/quiz will be posted as an announcement in GA View. No form of academic dishonesty will be tolerated in this class. Any type of activity that is considered dishonest by reasonable standards may constitute academic misconduct. The most common forms of academic misconduct are cheating and plagiarism. All instances of academic dishonesty will result in a grade of zero for the work involved. All instances of academic dishonesty will be reported to the Office of Student Life/Judicial Affairs. Judicial procedures are described at <http://adminsivices.clayton.edu/judicial/>. Changes or additions to this syllabus, including reading, exam schedule, grading, and course policies can be made at the discretion of the instructor at any time.

Last update: 11/28/11