

Valdosta State University
Organismal Biology – BIO 1030 Section A
CRN: 21309
TR 9:30-10:45
Bailey Center 1011

Course Description: An introduction to modern biology for the non-major with special emphasis on the processes involved in the development and maintenance of complex multicellular organisms.

-Co-requisite BIOL 1040L

Prerequisites: NA
Spring 2011

Professor: Dr. Matthew Waters

Office Location: Bailey 1106

Office Hours: Tuesday: 11-1:45, 3:30-4:30 and Thursday:11-1:45, 3:30-4:30. These are my officially scheduled office hours; however, you may stop by my office **at any time**; if I'm there, I will be happy to talk with you. If I am not in my office during office hours, check my lab in Bailey 1055 down the hallway across from my office.

Office Phone: 333-5760 (If I'm not there, try email or leave me a message)

Email: mwaters@valdosta.edu

The best method of contact tends to be through e-mail; however, if I do not respond, it is your responsibility to make sure that I have any needed information.

Textbook: : Biology: Concepts and Investigations, Mariëlle Hoefnagels – 2nd ed.

STUDENT EVALUATION: Your grade will be determined by your performance on (1) Four lecture exams and (2) one comprehensive final exam, as well as, (3) periodic quizzes.

- (1) Each of the four **lecture exams*** will consist of multiple choice, short answer and or diagrams to be labeled. Questions will come from both the reading material and the lecture material. Each lecture exam will count 100 points, but your lowest lecture grade will be dropped, for a total of 300 exam points.
- (2) The **final exam*** will be comprehensive in nature. Approximately one half of the exam will be vocabulary while the other half will consist of short answer, labeling and calculations similar to the previous tests. The final exam will weigh more heavily than the lecture exams, at 200 points.
- (3) **Quizzes** will be given 14 times during the semester when tests are not scheduled. The quizzes will cover reading material and lecture notes. Quizzes may be given at any time of the week, so keep up with the required reading and reviewing of class notes. There will be 14 quizzes, each quiz will be worth 10 points, only 10 will count toward the total of 100 possible points. I will drop your lowest 4 quiz grades. You may **not** make-up missed quizzes, missed quizzes will count toward the 4 possible dropped scores.

GRADING POLICY:

Lecture exams	100 points X 4 exams	300 points
Quizzes	10 points X 10 quizzes	100 points
Final Exam	200 points	<u>200 points</u>
TOTAL Grade		600 points

FINAL COURSE GRADE

Grading Scale: A = 89.5 – 100%
B = 79.5 – 89.49%
C = 69.5 – 79.49%
D = 59.5 – 69.49%
F = < 59.49%

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

- At VSU, attendance is mandatory for at least 80% of the classes. If you miss over 20% of the classes, I reserve the right to remove you with a failing grade.
- If you miss class, see a classmate for what you missed.
- Missed assignments
 - Quizzes *will not* be made up after class

Missed Tests:

If you miss a test for any reason, it counts as your dropped test. If the student misses he or she must notify the instructor as why the miss occurred. Students with missed tests for excused reasons will be allowed a make up exam if a second test is missed.

GENERAL EDUCATION OUTCOMES

- VSU General Education Outcomes are explained in more detail on the web.
www.valdosta.edu/academic/VSUGeneralEducationOutcomes.shtml

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

- Students will gain knowledge of processes and functions associated with the human form and plants
- Students will leave the course with a refreshed view of biology, not just as material, but as a function of their everyday lives.
- Students will be able to make informed decisions about issues by looking at both sides of the issue
- Students will demonstrate understanding of the physical universe and the nature of science, and they will use scientific methods and/or mathematical reasoning and concepts to solve problems.
- General Education Outcomes: 3, 4, 5, 7, 8

BEHAVIOR:

- You are in college therefore you will be treated as an adult. Reminder that someone is paying for you to be here, refrain from talking and disrupting those who want to learn. **CELL PHONES MUST BE TURNED OFF!** Classes are short; you can go that time without phone calls and text messaging. If you are expecting an important call please let the instructor know before class and you will be allowed to leave class to answer your call, but your phone must be on vibrate. If you talk on your phone in class you will be asked to leave.
- No IPODS! If you would rather listen to your IPod then you should not be in class.
- If you must use a laptop, then I require you sit in the first three rows.
- Any student that disrupts the class will be removed from the class and possibly dropped from the course. Refer to the Undergraduate Catalog for more information.

*****Failure to follow the above will result in the quizzes mentioned above being pop quizzes instead of announced.

ACADEMIC HONESTY:

Refer to VSU Student Code of Conduct, Appendix A in the VSU student handbook or <http://www.valdosta.edu/stulife/handbook/> A dishonest student will receive a failing grade on the exam or assignment.

ADA POLICY:

Students requiring classroom accommodations or modifications because of a documented disability should discuss this need with the instructor at the beginning of the semester. Students not registered with the Special Services Program, should contact the Special Service Office, Nevins Hall 1115 (245-2498)

WITHDRAWAL FROM COURSE:

Students are advised to consult the VSU Undergraduate Bulletin and the VSU Spring 2012 Schedule of classes for information about VSU policies and procedures. *Last day to withdraw is March 1, 2012.* Please note that it is very difficult to withdraw after the midterm.

FEDERAL PRIVACY ACT:

It is illegal to release personal information about an individual to others. Therefore grades, averages, and other personal information about any person will not be released to another person or over email.

REQUIRED READING

Reading from your textbook is required. Only read the sections that correlate with the subject matter covered in lecture. Questions on the test may come from the text.

Informal things that you need to have in print to believe

1. Treat biology like a foreign language. The vocabulary is completely different than any other subject. To be able to speak the language, you must first learn the vocabulary and THEN learn how to speak. In the same way, understanding biology is a two-step process. First, learn the vocabulary and then learn how the words are used to form the major concepts of biology. Only memorizing words will most likely get you a C or D in the class at best.
2. Only follow the sections of the book that I lecture on. You will not be tested on the sections that I skip.
3. Stay up with the material. We take copious amounts of notes in this class. Missing classes generally means missing pages and pages of notes. The best way to succeed in this class is to come to class and review your notes every few days.
4. I do not have your grades calculated at all times. If you email me about your grade, then I will get out a calculator, write down your grades, add them up and divide by the maximum number of points. Please do this yourself it at all possible. I appreciate students who want to keep up with where they are, but please attempt it yourself.
5. You are not allowed to take my quizzes and leave. If you do so, I reserve the right to count that quiz as one of your drops regardless of the grade.

Tentative Schedule
Biology 1030 A

Chapter	Topic (<i>Tentative</i>)	Number of Lectures
2	The Chemistry of Life	2
3	A tour of the cell	1
4	The energy of life	2
*****EXAM 1 *****		
6	Respiration	2
5	Photosynthesis	2
7	DNA and Gene Function	2-3
*****EXAM 2 *****		
8	Mitosis and the Cell Cycle	2
9	Meiosis	2
10	Genetics	2
*****EXAM 3 *****		
22	Plant Function	1
24-25	Animal Tissues and nerves	1
28-29	Muscles, blood and oxygen	1
30-31	Digestion and gas exchange	1
*****EXAM 4 *****		