

BIOL 1010 C, Introduction to Biology: The Evolution and Diversity of Life.
Spring Semester, 2012

Course Description: An introduction to modern biology for the non-major with special emphasis on the relationships between organisms and their evolutionary ties. Co-requisite BIOL 1020 (lab). Prerequisites: NA

Instructor: C. Heather Colson Hardy, DMD
Phone: 229-242-2449 ofc
E-mail: chardy@valdosta.edu

Mondays 6-8:45PM, BSC 1025
Office: 111 Woodrow Wilson Dr (Jan)
3000 N. Patterson St (Feb-)

The best method of contacting me is e-mail; however, you are welcome to contact my office and leave a message with my staff. I will return your call/email as soon as possible.

TEXTBOOK: *Biology: Concepts and Investigations, Second Edition.* Mariëlle Hoefnagels.

*Please note, this textbook is a **requirement**. It is not a suggestion. A portion of each exam will be taken directly from your reading texts, even if it was not explicitly reviewed in class.

ATTENDANCE:

It's expected, so be here. I understand the concept of emergencies. If you have one, let me know. Per VSU guidelines, (1) "A student who misses more than 20% of the scheduled classes [**THREE CLASSES**] of a course will be subject to receiving a failing grade in the course." (2) "Instructors may assign a 'W' on the proof roll for students not attending class. It is the responsibility of the student to complete the withdrawal process.... The instructor may assign a grade of 'W' or 'WF' after mid-term." (3) "Any student who discontinues class attendance after mid-term and does not officially withdraw may be assigned a grade of 'F'."

EVALUATION AND GRADING SYSTEM:

Lecture exams: 100 points X 4 exams	400 points
Research Paper	100 points
Quizzes 10 points X 10 quizzes	100 points
Assignments	200 points
Cumulative Final Exam	+ <u>200 points</u>
TOTAL Grade	1000 points

Your final grade is based on the standard scale. A: 900-1000 points; B: 800-899 points; C: 700-799 points; D: 600-699 points; F: 0-599 points. **All grades are final.**

Missing an exam is strongly discouraged. If you miss an exam, you must have a valid excuse with documentation and notify me prior to the scheduled exam in order to make it up. It is solely your responsibility to make arrangements for a make-up exam; I will not hunt you down. You must notify me of any missed exams immediately (within 24 hours) and make arrangements within three (3) business days to take a make-up. **If you have not contacted me within 24 hours of missing the exam you will receive a 0% for that exam.** Make up exams will be more difficult and may consist of oral, short answer, and/or essay type questions at my discretion.

ASSIGNMENTS/EXTRA-CREDIT POLICY:

- **Assignments:** Several assignments will be given throughout the semester. You will be awarded credit based on content of these pieces. Your responses must be more than "cut-and-paste" blurbs, and you **MUST** cite all of your references (when necessary)—journals, newspapers, magazines, books, television series. If a citation is required and you do not provide one, you will **not** receive credit. Assignment due dates will be given and no assignment will be accepted "late".
- **Quizzes** will be short answer, fill-in-the-blank, true/false or multiple choice. They will be given at any point during the class. FYI--You will have either a quiz or an exam each time we meet.

- **Exams:** All exams will be a mixture of multiple choice, T/F, fill in the blank, short answer and diagrams. All exams will be approximately 100-125 questions and you will have approximately 90 minutes to complete them. All personal belongings must be left at the front of the classroom and you may only have a writing utensil and calculator at your desk. Exams will cover information any and all information you received during that section.
- **Research Paper:** One research paper will be required this semester. Topic TBA. Your paper is due on or before the last class day. Your research paper will be graded partially using the Safe Assign program, which detects plagiarism. By taking this course, you agree that all required course work may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to SafeAssign, a tool within BlazeVIEW. For more information on the use of SafeAssign at VSU see [SafeAssign for Students](#).
- **Five (5)** additional points come from attendance. If you are here every day of the semester, you will *automatically* earn 5 points. Beware....attendance will be taken at random times during the class. If you leave class before I check, or you come in later, you will not be given a point. Take home point: be here on time, and don't leave until class is dismissed.
- **Academic Honesty:** Please refer to the Conduct Code and the Department Plagiarism Policy (<http://www.valdosta.edu/judicial/AcademicStudentConductCode.shtml> and <http://www.valdosta.edu/biology/documents/biologyplagiarism.doc> respectively). **Be aware: there will be absolutely NO tolerance of cheating/plagiarism. If you are caught, you will be reported to the Office of the Dean of Students, you will also receive a ZERO on that assignment, and you may fail this course.**

BEHAVIOR: You are in college; therefore, you will be treated as an adult. In exchange, I require the following from you:

- Refrain from talking and disrupting those who want to learn. If you disrupt the class, you will be removed from the class and possibly dropped from the course
- Cell phones/pagers must be turned on vibrate. **If you are expecting an important call please let me know before class and you will be allowed to leave class to answer your call. If you talk on your phone or text during my class, you will be asked to leave, and you will receive a zero as your daily/quiz grade.**
- No ipods.
- If you use a laptop, I require you to sit in the first row. (no facebooking, tweeting, etc, or you will be asked to leave class and you will receive a zero for your daily/quiz grade.)
- **No hats/caps will be allowed during examinations/quizzes.** If you must wear a cap/hat, it must be turned around during test-taking.

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.**

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.

Tentative Schedule—also posted on BlazeView

9-Jan	1: Intro to Biology
23-Jan	11: Forces of Evolutionary Change
	12: Evidence of Evolution
30-Jan	13: Speciation and Extinction
	14: Origins and the History of Life
6-Feb	Exam 1
	15: Viruses
13-Feb	16: Bacteria and Archaea
20-Feb	17: Protists
27-Feb	Exam 2 (and start 18)
5-Mar	18: Plants
	19: Fungi
19-Mar	20: Animals
26-Mar	Exam 3
	35: Animal Behavior
2-Apr	36: Population Ecology
9-Apr	37: Community Ecology
	38: Biomes and Climate Change
16-Apr	39: Preserving Biodiversity
20-Apr	Exam 4
2-May	Final

Important Dates to remember:

1/9	First Day of Class
1/16	MLK, Jr Holiday
3/1	Midterm
3/12-16	Spring Break
4/30	Last Class Day
5/1	Dead Day
5/2	Final @5pm