

University of North Texas at Dallas
Fall 2011
SYLLABUS

BIOL 1710: Principles of Biology I 3Hrs			
Department of	Health and Life Sciences	Division of	Liberal Arts and Sciences
Instructor Name:	Dr. Donna Hamilton		
Office Location:	DAL2 250		
Office Phone:	972-338-1522		
Email Address:	Donna.hamilton@untDallas.edu		
Office Hours:	MW 10-11:30; TR 8:30-9:30		
Virtual Office Hours:	N/A		
Classroom Location:	DAL 240		
Class Meeting Days & Times:	MW 1-2:20 pm		
Course Catalog Description:	An integrated approach to cell and molecular biology with an emphasis on biological chemistry, cell structure and function, Mendelian and molecular genetics, and evolutionary biology. For students preparing for advanced study in the biological sciences.		
Prerequisites:	None		
Co-requisites:	BIOL 1710 D 290 and BIOL 1730 D 090		
Required Text:	<i>Biology</i> by Campbell, Reece, Urry, Cain, Wasserman, Minorsky and Jackson; 10 th ed.		
Recommended Text and References:			
Access to Learning Resources:	UNT Dallas Library: phone: (972) 338-1616; web: http://www.untDallas.edu/our-campus/library UNT Dallas Bookstore: phone: (972) 780-3652; e-mail: 1012mgr@fheg.follett.com		
Course Goals or Overview:			
	To give students preparing for advanced study in the biological sciences a broad base of knowledge within cell and molecular biology with an emphasis on biological chemistry, cell structure and function, Mendelian and molecular genetics, and evolutionary biology.		
Student Learning Objectives:			
1	Understand basic concepts of science as a way of knowing cell biology, biochemistry, molecular biology, genetics, and evolutionary biology.		
2	Develop skills in scientific reasoning and experimental design.		
3	Develop skills in scientific writing.		
4	Practice and demonstrate competence of Common Core Objectives including critical thinking skills, communication skills, empirical and quantitative skills and teamwork		

Course Outline

This schedule is subject to change by the instructor. Any changes to this schedule will be communicated in class.

TOPICS	Timeline	Other Deadlines
Chapter 1: Evolution, the Themes of Biology and Scientific Inquiry	Week of 8/25/14	Bioliteracy survey
Chapter 3: Water and Life	Week of 9/1/14	HW 1
Chapter 5: The Structure and Function of Large Biological Molecules	Week of 9/8/14	HW 3
Test 1	Week of 9/15/14	HW 5
Chapter 6: A Tour of the Cell	Week of 9/22/14	
Chapter 7: Membrane Structure and Function	Week of 9/29/14	HW 6; JA 1
Chapter 8: An Introduction to Metabolism	Week of 10/6/14	HW 7
Test 2	Week of 10/13/14	HW 8
Chapter 9: Cellular Respiration and Fermentation	Week of 10/20/14	
Chapter 10: Photosynthesis	Week of 10/27/14	HW 9; JA 2
Chapter 11: Cell Communication	Week of 11/3/14	HW 10
Test 3	Week of 11/10/14	HW 11
Chapter 12: The Cell Cycle/ Chapter 13: Meiosis and Sexual Life Cycles	Week of 11/17/14	
Chapter 14: Mendel and the Gene Idea	Week of 11/24/14	HW 12; HW 13
Chapter 15: The Chromosomal Basis of Inheritance	Week of 12/1/14	HW 14; Draft RP
Test 4	Week of 12/6/14	HW 15; Final RP

Course Evaluation Methods

This course will utilize the following instruments to determine student grades and proficiency of the learning outcomes for the course.

Bio-literacy Survey – (<http://bioliteracy.colorado.edu/>) *Students will complete this online survey 2x during the semester: the week of August 25th, 2014 and again the week of December 1, 2014. Points are awarded for completion of the survey, not the score received.*

Exams

Chapter Homework – *assigned problems from the Scientific Skills sections*

Journal Article Reviews – *a synthetic summary and review of a recently published journal article following the guidelines provided in the grading rubric.*

Review Paper– *a synthetic review of recent research on an approved topic and following the guidelines provided in the grading rubric*

Group Presentation– *student groups will choose a topic and present a short presentation in class*

Class Participation – *daily attendance and participation in class discussions*

Case studies – *there will be opportunities during the semester to earn extra credit points by completing the questions from provided case studies. (25pts ea)*

Grading Matrix:

Instrument	Value (points or percentages)	Total
Bio-literacy Survey	2 @ 25 pts ea	50
Exams	4 exams @ 100 pts ea	400
Chapter Homework	13 @ 10 pts ea	130
Journal Article Reviews	2 @ 25 pts ea	50
Review Paper Topic	20	20
Review Paper Draft	50	50
Review Paper Final	50	50
Group Presentation	50	50
Class Participation/ Discussion	150	150
Total:		950

Grade Determination:

A = 950 – 855 pts; i.e. 90% or better

B = 854 – 760 pts; i.e. 80 – 89 %

C = 759 -- 655 pts; i.e. 70 – 79 %

D = 654 – 570 pts; i.e. 60 – 69 %

F = 569 pts or below; i.e. less than 60%

University Policies and Procedures

Students with Disabilities (ADA Compliance):

The University of North Texas Dallas faculty is committed to complying with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Students' with documented disabilities are responsible for informing faculty of their needs for reasonable accommodations and providing written authorized documentation. Grades assigned before an accommodation is provided will not be changed as accommodations are not retroactive. For more information, you may visit the Student Life Office, Suite 200, Building 2 or call Laura Smith at 972-780-3632.

Student Evaluation of Teaching Effectiveness Policy:

The Student Evaluation of Teaching Effectiveness (SETE) is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT. This short survey will be made available to you at the end of the semester, providing you a chance to comment on how this class is taught. I am very interested in the feedback I get from students, as I work to continually improve my course and I consider the SETE to be an important part of your participation in this class.

Assignment Policy:

All assignment are due at the start of class with no partial credit given for late submission. Unless otherwise indicated, all assignments are due in hard copy and may not be emailed for credit. The only extra credit points given are for the 4 provided case studies.

Exam Policy:

Exams should be taken as scheduled. No makeup examinations will be allowed except for documented emergencies (See Student Handbook).

Academic Integrity:

Academic integrity is a hallmark of higher education. You are expected to abide by the University's code of Academic Integrity policy. Any person suspected of academic dishonesty (i.e., cheating or plagiarism) will be handled in accordance with the University's policies and procedures. Refer to the Student Code of Academic Integrity at http://www.unt.edu/unt-dallas/policies/Chapter%2007%20Student%20Affairs,%20Education,%20and%20Funding/7.002%20Code%20of%20Academic_Integrity.pdf for complete provisions of this code.

In addition, all academic work submitted for this class, including exams, papers, and written assignments should include the following statement:

On my honor, I have not given, nor received, nor witnessed any unauthorized assistance that violates the UNTD Academic Integrity Policy.

Bad Weather Policy:

On those days that present severe weather and driving conditions, a decision may be made to close the campus. In case of inclement weather, call UNT Dallas Campuses main voicemail number (972) 780-3600 or search postings on the campus website www.unt.edu/dallas. Students are encouraged to update their Eagle Alert contact information, so they will receive this information automatically.

Attendance and Participation Policy:

The University attendance policy is in effect for this course. Class attendance and participation is expected because the class is designed as a shared learning experience and because essential information not in the textbook will be discussed in class. The dynamic and intensive nature of this course makes it impossible for students to make-up or to receive credit for missed classes. Attendance and participation in all class meetings is essential to the integration of course material and your ability to demonstrate proficiency. Students are responsible to notify the instructor if

they are missing class and for what reason. Students are also responsible to make up any work covered in class during an excused absence. It is recommended that each student coordinate with a student colleague to obtain a copy of the class notes, if they are absent.

Students are expected to arrive on time for class and roll at the designated time. Being tardy or absent will affect the points earned for attendance and thus your overall grade.

Diversity/Tolerance Policy:

Students are encouraged to contribute their perspectives and insights to class discussions. However, offensive & inappropriate language (swearing) and remarks offensive to others of particular nationalities, ethnic groups, sexual preferences, religious groups, genders, or other ascribed statuses will not be tolerated. Disruptions which violate the Code of Student Conduct will be referred to the Office of Student Life as the instructor deems appropriate.

General Behavior:

Students are expected to conduct themselves in a professional and appropriate manner. You should expect to be silent when others are speaking, give your full attention to the professor or speaker, and refrain from reading newspapers or other distracting materials during class time.

Tobacco products of any kind are not permitted in the classroom.

Cell phones should always be on silent during class time.

Laptops and tablets may be approved for use in class for note taking on a provisional case-by-case basis.

Food is not permitted in the classroom although drinks are allowed as long as they are in a closed lid container.

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