

University of North Texas at Dallas
Fall 2016
SYLLABUS

Course Abbreviation/Number/Title/Semester Hrs BIOL1082.330: Biology for Educators Lab: 0 Hrs	
Department of Life and Health Sciences School of Liberal Arts and Sciences	
Instructor Name:	Dr. Irene T. Rodriguez
Office Location:	Founders Hall (DAL2) room 253
Office Phone:	972-338-1525
Email Address:	Irene.Rodriguez@untDallas.edu
Office Hours:	Wednesday 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm; or by appointment
Classroom Location:	Founders Hall (DAL2) room 255
Class Meeting Days & Times:	Tuesday 10:00 am – 12:50 pm
Course Catalog Description:	Develop a meaningful and functional command of key biological concepts; an understanding of the interrelationships among all living things; and a correlation between what pre-service teachers are required to learn and what they will be required to teach. Includes laboratory. BIOL 1082 is a general biology course with laboratory designated for elementary and middle school education majors for seeking teacher certification. Note: this course may not be used to satisfy the laboratory science requirement for majors in the School of Liberal Arts and Sciences
Prerequisites:	None
Co-requisites:	BIOL 1082.030 – Lecture (online)
Required Text:	Laboratory Manual: Thompson R, Nugent J, King MK, Piccolo KC. 2007. <i>The Scope of Biology. From Cells to Ecosystems</i> . Kendall/Hunt Publishing Co. Dubuque, IA, United States of America. ISBN: 978-0-7575-4428-6
Access to Learning Resources:	UNT Dallas Library: phone: (972) 780-3625; web: http://www.unt.edu/unt-dallas/library.htm UNT Dallas Bookstore: phone: (972) 780-3652; e-mail: 1012mgr@fheg.follett.com
Course Goals or Overview:	The goal of this course is to provide the student with a broad background in biology that can be used in elementary and secondary education. This course will provide a brief overview of the major topics within the biological sciences
Learning Objectives/Outcomes: At the end of this course, students will be able to:	
1	Explore the natural sciences
2	Be able to locate, evaluate, and organize information including the use of information technologies
3	Be able to think critically and creatively, and learn to apply different systems of analysis
4	Develop problem solving skills that incorporate multiple viewpoints and differing contexts in their analysis
5	Cultivate intellectual curiosity and self-responsibility, building a foundation for life-long learning
6	Engage with a variety of others in thoughtful and well-crafted communication
7	Broaden and refine their thinking as a part of the give and take of ideas, seeking to better understand other's perspectives as well as their own

Course Outline

These schedules are subject to change by the instructor. Any changes to these schedules will be communicated by the instructor in class or by Blackboard announcement.

Laboratory Schedule

DATE	TOPIC	POINTS
Aug 23	– NO LAB –	-
Aug 30	Lab Safety / Introduction / Movie: <i>Estrogen Effect</i>	10
Sep 6	DNA extraction	10
Sep 13	Movie: <i>Corals</i>	10
Sep 20	Presentations Unit I - LIFE	20
Sep 27	Oompa Loompa Genetics	10
Oct 4	Building a Bee-bop (Part I)	10
Oct 11	Video: <i>Natural Selection: the Rock Pocket Mouse</i> Building a Bee-bop (Part II)	10
Oct 18	Presentations Unit III - HUMAN SYSTEMS	20
Oct 25	Video: <i>Evolution in the Galapagos</i> Beaks of Finches	10
Nov 1	Owl Pellet	10
Nov 8	Movie: <i>Cane Toads</i>	10
Nov 15	Presentations Unit IV - ENVIRONMENTAL SYSTEMS	20
Nov 22	Presentations - SEMESTER PROJECT	50
Nov 29	– NO LAB – Pre-finals Week	-
Dec 6	– NO LAB – Reading Day	-
Dec 13	– NO LAB – Final Exams	Total: 200

Course Evaluation Methods

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

Laboratory (200 points) – You will perform experiments designed to give you hands-on real-world applications of the lecture material. In some cases, you will watch documentaries to complement the experiments. After each laboratory exercise, you will have an assignment worth 10 points. **Each assignment is due at the end of the lab session.** In addition, you will work within a group of students to present 3 topics (20 points each) and one semester project (50 points). You do not receive a separate grade for lab, so the proportional points received for the laboratory (out of 200) will be added into the lecture grade calculation.

Note: The lab is worth 25% of your final overall grade for the course. However, you must receive a passing grade (60% or higher) in the laboratory to receive a passing grade in the class. Students must pass both the lecture and the lab independently to pass the course (i.e. if you fail the lab, you automatically fail the entire course and if you fail the lecture, you automatically fail the entire course).

Grading Matrix

Instrument	Value	Total points
Assignments (9)	45 %	90
Presentations (3)	30 %	60
Semester Project and Presentation	25 %	50
Total	100 %	200

Grade Determination

A = 90% or better
 B = 80 – 89 %
 C = 70 – 79 %
 D = 60 – 69 %
 F = less than 60%

University Policies and Procedures

Students with Disabilities (ADA Compliance):

Chapter 7(7.004) Disability Accommodations for Students

The University of North Texas at Dallas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodations must first register with the Disability Services Office (DSO) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the DSO will provide you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request accommodations at any time, however, DSO notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet/communicate with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. Students are strongly encouraged to deliver letters of accommodation during faculty office hours or by appointment. Faculty members have the authority to ask students to discuss such letters during their designated office hours to protect the privacy of the student. For additional information see the Disability Services Office website at <http://www.untDallas.edu/disability>. You may also contact them by phone at 972-338-1777; by email at UNTDdisability@untDallas.edu or at Building 2, room 204.

Student Evaluation of Teaching Effectiveness Policy:

Student's evaluations of teaching effectiveness is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT Dallas. 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 teaching. I consider students' evaluations to be an important part of your participation in this class.

Assignment Policy:

Assignments are intended to reinforce material covered in lecture. Collaborative efforts on completing the assignments are encouraged so long as all member of the collaboration contribute equally. As with all other graded assessments, cheating will not be tolerated. While collaborations are encouraged, each student must submit their own work, which cannot be identical to the work submitted by the other members of the collaboration. Assignments should be turned in on time. ***Late assignments will NOT be accepted.***

Exam Policy:

Exams should be taken as scheduled. No makeup examinations will be allowed except for documented emergencies (See Student Handbook). Students are allowed to take make-up for ***only one*** missed exam, with proper documentation. The instructor must be contacted within 24 hours of the exam to schedule a make-up. A makeup exam must be taken within one week of the original exam. If students know in advance that they will miss an exam, they must take the exam prior to the exam date. There is no make-up for the second or subsequent missed exams. Students should take the exam on time, before the deadline date and time. Any student caught cheating will automatically receive a 0 on the exam, and the instructor may pursue further disciplinary action.

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.untDallas.edu/sites/default/files/page_level2/pdf/policy/7.002%20Code%20of%20Academic_Integrity.pdf for complete provisions of this code.

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarizing, fabrication of information or citations, facilitating acts of dishonesty by others, having unauthorized possession of examinations, submitting work of another person or work previously used without informing the instructor, or tampering with the academic work of other students.

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. It is recommended that each student coordinate with a student colleague to obtain a copy of the class notes, if they are absent. If students miss more than one class for other than a documented emergency (e.g. hospitalization, death in the family), then they may receive a 5-25% reduction in their overall grade, depending on the session missed.

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 Campus 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.

Diversity/Tolerance Policy:

Students are encouraged to contribute their perspectives and insights to class discussions in the online environment. 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 Dean of Students as the instructor deems appropriate.

Use of Electronic Gadgets in the Lab:

You are allowed to take notes or record the class using laptops/iPads/other electronic devices. However, the instructor reserves the right to ask you to discontinue use of an electronic device if it becomes disruptive to others in the classroom or lab.

Food/Drink Policy:

No food or drinks are allowed in the laboratory.