

LeTourneau University
BIOL 1123 General Biology II
Course Syllabus

Goals: This course will introduce you to an overview of eukaryotic life on earth, animal and plant physiology. My own goal is to help you enjoy the elegance and beauty of God's creation. Emphasis will be placed on science as a process and the nature and presuppositions of scientific knowledge. All of these topics will be explored from a Biblical world view and you will be encouraged to pose questions and seek answers.

How to succeed: Below are broadly recommended and expected guidelines for studying for university science courses.

1. Study at least 2 hours outside of class for each hour in class.
2. Read the assigned material before lecture. This is expected and greatly increases your learning as the instructor often does not lecture directly on the material in the chapter, but will emphasize the important material and supplement it with additional materials. The tests will cover both the reading material and the lecture material.
3. Ask in class or after class if the material is not clear.
4. Rewrite lecture notes within a few hours of each lecture and combine them with the notes from assigned reading and homework, and with material learned in lab. Redrawing structures and diagrams greatly increases learning for most.
5. Keep your notes and other materials organized and easy to study.
6. Use study aids that are available in your text book CD and the associated online internet site.

What you learn from a course and your enjoyment of that course is directly proportional to the effort you invest.

Instructor: Mrs. Karen Rispin
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Office Phone: 233-3957, Home phone: 643-8662
Email: KarenRispin@letu.edu - I check my email often and am happy to hear from you.

Office Hours: MW 12:30 – 1:20, TR 9:20 – 10:20 pm.

Lecture Text:
Biology, 7th Edition.
Campbell and Reece

Attendance is to your advantage and is required. I will often give quizzes. I require verification for health related and family emergency related absences. For all absences including university related activities with excused absences, all work missed must be made up within a week unless otherwise arranged in advance.

Grading:

A = 91 – 100 %; B = 81- 90%; C = 71- 80 %; D = 60 - 70%; F = below 60

Quizzes = 100 pts

5 Unit Exams = 500 pts

1 Final Exam = 100 pts

paper = 100 pts

The final exam will be comprehensive. Exams will be a combination of multiple choice, matching and short answer. Some matching will include labeling of anatomical diagrams.

Keep track: At the end of the semester, if you have a grade just under a letter threshold (say an 80%) I will **not** raise it to the next higher letter grade. Keep track so that you realize you are near a letter threshold soon enough to raise your grade yourself.

Check grades within a week: If you want to question a grade on any assignment or exam, you must do that within a week of receiving your grade on that assignment or exam. Last minute attempts to get a grade changed on previous assignments at the end of the semester will not work.

Extra Credit: I do not offer **unique individual** extra credit assignments, so there will be no way to rescue your grade at the last minute. However, there is an extra credit opportunity; you can gain up to five points on your final grade. At the beginning of the first class on which the material in each chapter is dealt with, hand in hand written questions and answers to the self quiz at the end of that chapter. You will be graded for completeness and correctness. An extra credit assignment handed in late will not be accepted.

General Biology Lab: BIOL 1121 is a separate course and the grade for that course is entirely separate from the grade for this course. The topics in the lab course are synchronous with those covered in the lecture course and are designed to assist in understanding the same concepts.

Academic Honesty: See the section on academic honesty in the Student Handbook for a clear explanation of academic honesty definition and policies at LeTourneau University. Academic dishonesty of any kind may result in notification of your advisor and the student affairs office and may include penalties up to and including expulsion from the university. I will follow the guidelines indicated in the Student Handbook. Ideas other than those from your own original research which are not clearly and correctly attributed to a source are plagiarized.

Disability policy: Students enrolled in an institution of higher education are required to self-identify if they would like to request academic support services on the basis of a disability. LeTourneau University encourages a student with a disability to self-identify after admission and to provide required documentation to the Dean of Student Services. Through self-identification and the utilization of appropriate academic services, it is assumed that academic progress must be made. Students needing facility adjustments must notify the Dean of Student Services at 903-233-4450.

Our goal at LeTourneau University is to enable students to progress in: Grounding values, Broadening knowledge, Deepening skills, Collaborating service and Discovering purpose.

Grounding Values: This course will encourage students to consider for themselves what the study of Biology has to tell them about the origin and nature of life itself. The subject matter will be approached from a Christian world view.

Broadening knowledge: BIOL 1113 is data rich; any student who passes this course will have broadened their knowledge of nature. My goal is that your joy in life on earth grows along with your knowledge.

Deepening skills: Studying successfully will deepen your skills in preparing for rigorous tests necessary for so many of the science related professions..

Collaborating service: The content of this course does not lend itself to public service projects though the collaborative assignments should encourage the skills needed to work with a team, and the course itself is a building block in many public service and environmentally beneficial careers.

Discovering purpose: For those of you considering careers related to biology, zoology or health science, this course should increase your understanding of the joys and challenges of those disciplines.