

BIOLOGY 1409 SYLLABUS – Spring, 2011

Instructor: Donald S. Wood, PhD

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Text: *What is Life? A Guide to Biology* by Jay Phelan

Lab Manual: *Biology: Laboratory manual* (10th ed.) by S. Mader

Pre-requisites: Biology 1408

SCANS: 3, 6 and 9

Course Description: This course is a continuation of BIOL 1408. Biology of viruses, bacteria, protistas, fungi, plants, animals and animal behavior is presented. Emphasis placed on general human anatomy and physiology. Current topics in biology and medicine will be discussed. Designed as a transferable lab science course for non-science majors. Lab fee required.

Course Objectives:

Learners will develop a basic understanding of the evolution of animal and human behaviour.

Learners will consider the origins of life on earth and develop an appreciation for the advantages to all life forms of biodiversity

Learners will develop a basic understanding of the interdependent relationships between life forms including bacteria, plants, animals, viruses and humans

Learners will develop a basic understanding of important biological similarities among all life forms as well as biologically significant differences between them.

Learners will develop a basic understanding of ecology, ecosystems and human influences that contribute to, and detract from, conservation of natural resources

Lecture Series: There are four Lecture Series in this course covering the Textbook Chapters listed. There will be an Exam following each Lecture Series. The Final Exam will be a comprehensive exam covering all the material in the course from Chapters 9 through 16.

Lecture Series I: Evolution, Behavior and the Origins of Life (Chapters 9 and 10)

Exam #1

Lecture Series II: Plant and Animal Diversification (Chapters 11 and 12)

Exam #2

Lecture Series III: Human Evolution and the Impact of Microbes (Chapters 11 and 13)

Exam #3

Lecture Series IV: Ecology, Ecosystems, Biodiversity and Conservation (Chapter 14, 15, 16)

Exam #4

Comprehensive Final Exam

Grade Determination

Lecture Exams	4 exams	100 pts each	400 pts total
Lab Exams	2 exams	100 pts each	200 pts total
Class Participation	Daily	100 pts	100 pts total
Project		100 pts	100 pts total
Current Event Debate		100 pts	100 pts total
Comprehensive Final Exam			<u>200 pts total</u>
Total Points for Determining Class Grade			1100 pts total

Extra Credit: There will be an opportunity to obtain up to 25 extra credit points during the semester. The extra credit opportunities will be discussed during class.

Class Grade: Your final class grade will be calculated by dividing the Total Points Earned – including any extra credit --by the total Points Available (1100) and multiplying by 100, then rounding up to the nearest whole number. A = 90% - 100%; B = 80% - 89%; C = 70% - 79%; D = 60% - 69%; and F is anything 59% or below.

Lecture and Lab Attendance

Numerous scientific studies have shown that good attendance, good note taking and good class participation can almost always improve student grades. Studies have also shown that with rare exceptions, when a student misses 20% or more of classes their grades will decline significantly. If an absence is unavoidable, then you must let me know in advance and find a way to obtain details of what you missed from your fellow classmates.

Exam Attendance

Lab Exams: There are no make-up lab exams. If you miss a lab exam for whatever reason, you will get a zero for that exam.

Lecture Exams: Lecture exams are mandatory. You must be present when the exam is given unless you have made previous arrangements with the instructor to take the test at a different time. If you have not made previous arrangements and simply don't show up to take the exam, then it's possible you will get a zero for that exam at the sole discretion of the instructor.

Final Exam: This will be given only once at the day and time stated in your course catalogue. If you miss the exam then you will get a zero.

Tutoring

Biology tutoring is available free of charge. A tutoring schedule will be provided as soon as it is available. In addition, your instructor will have posted office hours.

Student Behavior

A. On-time: It is your responsibility to be on-time. Coming in late is disruptive to the class and the instructor. If you come in after class attendance is taken, you will be marked absent unless you make specific arrangements ahead of time with the Instructor to let him know you will be late.

B. Lecture and Lab Demeanor: The classroom is intended to be interactive with discussion between the instructor and students. Orderly questions and respectful discussions will contribute to a quality learning experience for all involved. Disruptions and disrespectful behavior will not be tolerated and may result in the student or students causing such problems to be dismissed from class or reprimanded. A class dismissal or reprimand may, at the instructor's sole discretion, result in a 100 point deduction from the final grade determination. A second class dismissal or reprimand may, at the instructor's sole discretion, result in termination from the class and a Grade of F.

C. Academic honesty: Make the theme of your class experience to ***'DO THE BEST YOU CAN DO'***. Be honest with yourself. If you are struggling and having trouble with the material, then seek out assistance from the tutor, from the instructor or from your classmates. But whatever you do, don't plagiarize (copy) or cheat on papers and exams and assignments. If you are found to be academically dishonest you may be dismissed from class immediately and given a Grade of F at the sole discretion of the instructor.

D. Cell phones and pagers: These must be turned off during class. Anyone texting or using a cell phone disrupts the class and the instructor. Failure to abide by this policy may result in up to a 100 point deduction from your total points at the sole discretion of the instructor.

Student Grievances: Odessa College policy requires that student grievances first be discussed with your instructor. Unresolved issues may then be discussed with your instructor's immediate supervisor.

Student Withdrawals: Refer to the current Odessa College Bulletin for the policy regarding student withdrawal from a class.

Special Needs: Odessa College complies with Section 504 of the Vocational Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. If you have any special needs or issues pertaining to your access to and participation in this or any other class at Odessa College, please feel free to contact me to discuss your concerns. You may also call the Office of Disability Services at 335-6861 to request assistance and accommodations.

Class Schedule:

The following is a tentative schedule for lectures, labs and exams. It is subject to change at any time. Laboratory exercises will be explained in class.

Class Introduction, Chapt 9	Lecture	Overall class objectives and beginning of discussions on animal and human behavior	Week 1
Lab	Lab	Introduction	1/21/2011
Chapt 9 continued	Lecture	Nature vs Nurture: the influences on, and shaping of, human behavior	Week 2
Lab	Lab	Details to be discussed in class	1/28/2011
Chapt 9/ Chapt 10		Origins of life	Week 3
Lab	Review	Details to be discussed in class	2/4/2011
Chapt 10	Lecture	Diversification of life	Week 4
Lab	Lab	Details to be discussed in class	2/11/2011
Chapt 12	Lecture	Plant diversification; Review for Exam #1	Week 5
Lab	Lab	Lab Review for first lab exam	2/18/2011
Exam 1/Chapt 12	Exam	Exam: Chapt 9 and 10/Plant diversification	Week 6
Lab Exam	Exam		2/25/2011
Chapt 11	Lecture	Animal diversification	Week 7
Lab	Lab	Details to be discussed in class	3/4/2011
Chapt 11	Lecture	Human evolution	Week 8
Lab	Lab	Details to be discussed in class	3/11/2011
Spring Break			Week 9
Chapt 11	Lecture	Human evolution/Review Exam#2	Week 10
Lab	Lab	Details to be discussed in class	3/25/2011
Exam #2/Chapt 13	Exam	Exam #2, Chapt 12, part of 11/microbes and human	Week 11
Lab	Lab	Details to be discussed in class	4/1/2011
Chapt 13	Exam	microbes and humans/ review Exam #3	Week 12
Lab	Lab	Details to be discussed in class	4/8/2011
Exam #3/Chapt 14	Exam	Exam #3, Chapt 13, part of 11/Ecology	Week 13
Lab	Lab	Details to be discussed in class	4/15/2011
Chapt 14/Chapt 15	Lecture	Ecology, ecosystems and communities	Week 14
Lab		Good Friday Holiday – no lab	4/22/2011
Chapt 15/Chapt 16	Lecture	Ecosystems, conservation and biodiversity	Week 15
Lab	Lab	Details to be discussed in class	4/29/2011
Review/Exam #4	Lecture	Review, Exam #4, Chapt 14, 15 and 16	Week 16
Lab	Lab	Details to be discussed in class	5/6/2011

