

Syllabus

Dr. Gannon
Department of Biology
College of Arts & Sciences, VSU
Office: BC 2.035; Phone: 333-5759
rlgannon@valdosta.edu
Office Hours: TR 11:00 – 12:00

Human Biology is an exploration of the physiological systems that comprise the human body. There are a total of eleven physiological systems such as the nervous system, the muscular system, etc., that are necessary for life. In this course we will focus on the functioning of the different systems in both normal and pathological states. Particular emphasis will be placed on the intersection between the fields of physiology and medicine. In addition, we will discuss new and emerging strategies for the detection and treatment of disease whenever possible.

Objectives:

When the course is concluded the student should know:

- 1) The basic functions of each physiological system in the human body;
- 2) The etiology of the most common diseases that affect humans;
- 3) The treatments, or lack thereof, for the diseases mentioned in objective 2;
- 4) The role of science in human medicine.
- 5) The concept of “biological plausibility” and when it should be applied.

These objectives support the Department of Biology Educational Outcome #3 and VSU General Educational Outcomes #5.

Assessments:

There are four in-class exams each worth 25 % of the total grade.
There is no extra credit.
There are no make-up exams. Be sure you are here on exam days.

Attendance:

This class has a punitive attendance policy. No credit is given for attendance, but students are only allowed 2 unexcused absences. For each additional unexcused absence, 2 % of the course total will be deducted for each instance. Excused absences are typically only for medical reasons and must be properly documented. Any student who misses more than 20 % of the lectures (7 unexcused days) will receive an automatic final course grade of “F”.

Required Text:

Biology of Humans by Goodenough, McGuire, Wallace ,2nd Ed, 2007.

Special Needs

Students with disabilities need to contact the Access Office (229-245-2498) so that we can accommodate your needs.

Cheating

Students caught cheating will receive a final course grade of “F” and be reported to the Dean of Students.

Tentative Lecture Schedule

<i>Date</i>	<i>Topic</i>	<i>Chapter</i>
8/19	Introduction	1
8/21	Chemistry & Biochemicals	2
8/26	Chemistry & Biochemicals	2
8/28	The Cell	3
9/2	The Cell	3
9/4	Tissues	4
9/9	Skeletal System	5
9/11	Exam I	
9/16	Muscles	6
9/18	Neurons	7
9/23	Neurons	7
9/25	Central Nervous System	8
9/30	Psychoactive Drugs	8a
10/2	Sensory Systems	9
10/7	Pain	9
10/9	Exam II	
10/16	Endocrine System	10
10/21	Endocrine System	10
10/23	Blood	11
10/28	Heart	12
10/30	Immune System	13
11/4	Cancer	21a
11/6	Infectious Diseases	13a
11/11	Exam III	
11/13	Respiratory System	14
11/18	No class	
11/20	Digestive System	15
11/25	Urinary System	16
12/2	Diabetes	15a
12/4	Aging	18
12/11	Final Exam (10:15 am – 12:15 pm)	