

Biology 1107L: Principles of Biology I Laboratory

Department of Biology, College of Science and Mathematics, Valdosta State University
Fall 2021 Laboratory Syllabus

Instructor: Mr. Joshua I. Brown

Section: A (CRN 83331) Monday 9:00 – 11:50

Room Number: Bailey Science Center 1083

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Office hours: Tues 11:00 – 12:30

Wed 10:00 – 11:30 (or by appointment)

Course Description: A laboratory course designed to accompany BIOL 1107 lecture, with exercises dealing with the cellular nature of life.

Pre- or Corequisite: BIOL 1107 Unifying Principles of Biology I. Note a grade of C or higher is required in both lecture and lab.

Course Objectives: Upon completion of this course the student should be able to:

- Exhibit a broad perspective on the principles unifying various biological disciplines from evolution to molecular biology (DBEO 2 & 5);
- Understand basic biological chemistry from elements to organic compounds to macromolecules.
- Comprehend basic principles of biology at the cellular level to include structure, function, metabolism, communication, reproduction, molecular biology, and gene expression (DBEO 3 & 4);
- Perform, analyze, interpret and report laboratory experiments (DBEO 1);
- Develop and test a hypothesis using experimental microscopy and quantitative skills acquired in the laboratory (DBEO 1 & 5).

These objectives support the Department of Biology Educational Outcomes # 1-5 listed above (DBEO 1-5) and the University General Educational Outcomes # 5 as listed in the VSU Undergraduate Catalogue

Grading:

Desired Grade	Scale
A	270 – 300
B	240 - 269
C	210 - 239
D	180 - 209

Grade component	Total points
Pre – quizzes	60
Post – quizzes	120
Assignments	60
Attendance	60
Class total	300

Pre/post quizzes: There are a total of 12 labs we will conducting throughout this semester. Each lab will have its own pre and post quiz. The pre-quiz will be used to prime you for that week’s lab. They consist of questions that require you to read material I will give you on BlazeVIEW and possibly things you have to “research” on your own. The post – quiz will be based on the lab completed that week.

Assignments: There will be two assignments given during the semester, they will be associated with labs four and seven. They will be worth 30 points each. More information will be given once we get closer to them.

Attendance: I will take attendance each lab period, and each time you attend you will receive five points.

Extra Credit: There will be extra credit opportunities....TBD

Attendance Policy: Laboratory attendance is mandatory. Students who miss 3 or more labs, with or without a documented excuse, cannot receive a lab grade above a 60% (D) for the course.

If students must be absent due to a quarantine or isolation requirement for COVID-19, they must report this situation via the COVID Self Reporting Link in MyVSU and through the Dean of Students Office. Report any other type of absence as well to the Dean of Student Office, which will send an absentee notice by email to all your Instructors.

Given that this is an actual lab that requires you to physically be here to get valuable experience and data, it is imperative that you try to come every week. Missing lab not only hurts your attendance but also may affect your post quizzes and potentially your assignments as you are not there to gather your data.

Athletes and other University representatives: Please let me know in advance if you will be missing a lab due to an away game or other required event. You will need to make arrangements with me for you to attend an alternative lab section.

Lab Conduct:

- Please arrive on time. If you are more than 15 minutes it is very likely you will miss out on the entire lab.
- No eating or drinking in the lab is allowed.
- Dress appropriately

- You must take care of lab equipment. Notify the instructor if something is not working properly or if something breaks during the course of the lab.
- You will be assigned a microscope. It is your responsibility to properly use the microscope. At the conclusion of the lab I will check each scope to make sure that it was put away properly. Please notify me if the microscope is not functioning properly.
- Cell phones are not to be used in lab. This means no texting during the lab unless I give permission for cell phones to be out.

Make up labs: If you know you are going to be absent or miss a lab due to sickness, there may be a chance to make up a lab in one of my other sections. However, keep in mind this is not a guarantee. All my sections are either full or almost full so there might not be enough room.

DO NOT just decide you are going to skip class one day and show up to another. You MUST check with me first.

Communication: The best way to contact me is through VSU email (JoshuaBrown@valdosta.edu). I try to respond as soon as possible. If you do not get a response within 24 hours don't hesitate to send a POLITE reminder to me about it.

You can try to reach me through BlazeVIEW but I do not recommend it. I do not get notifications from it and am likely to miss a message for a prolonged period of time.

Please be professional and courteous..." You can catch more flies with honey than vinegar".

Also, please include your lab section in your emails!

NO CHEATING!

You are here to be assessed on YOUR work. You are only doing yourself a disservice by cheating as you will have a harder time in upper division courses. Plagiarism is a form of cheating. You cannot copy someone else's work and pass it off as your own.

Incidents of cheating or plagiarism will result in an automatic F for the course and referral to The Office of Student Conduct for disciplinary action. For VSU's Academic Integrity Code please see <http://www.valdosta.edu/administration/student-affairs/student-conduct-office/> For VSU's Academic Honesty policies and procedure please see <http://www.valdosta.edu/academics/academic-affairs/vp-office/academic-honesty-policies-and-procedures.php>

COVID INFORMATION:

The University System of Georgia recognizes COVID-19 vaccines offer safe, effective protection and urges all students, faculty, staff and visitors to get vaccinated either on campus or with a local provider. Additionally, everyone is encouraged to wear a mask or face covering while inside campus facilities. The

system continues to work closely with the Georgia Department of Public Health to prioritize the health and safety of our campus communities.

- All faculty, staff, and students are strongly encouraged to receive a COVID-19 vaccine.
- No student, faculty or staff member should be treated differently based on their COVID-19 vaccination status.
- Students should not be asked about their vaccine status and segregated in a classroom or from other instructor-student interactions (e.g., office hours, group work, field trips, labs, etc.) based on their vaccination status.
- Vaccination status can be used to determine whether or not a person should quarantine after a close contact with a person who tests positive for COVID-19.
- Masks/face coverings are not required on campus. Two exceptions may apply on campuses – health center/medical facility and public transit. Un-vaccinated individuals are strongly encouraged to continue wearing a mask or face covering.
- Institutions will return to campus in the fall with no social distancing measures. Un-vaccinated individuals are strongly encouraged to continue social distancing whenever possible.

Coronavirus Resources for Students:

VSU cares about student success both on and offline, and a variety of resources are available to help students both academically and personally during the Fall 2021 semester.

One of the best resources is VSU's Coronavirus FAQ page located at <https://www.valdosta.edu/health-advisory/faq.php>. Information is available there about a variety of topics in VSU's return-to-campus plan. A website devoted to the health and wellness of VSU students can be seen at <https://www.valdosta.edu/administration/finance-admin/campus-wellness/student-resources.php>.

You can find information, including how you can access the Brightspace Pulse app that will allow you to view BlazeVIEW on your smartphone at <https://www.d2l.com/products/pulse/>. In BlazeVIEW, all VSU students have a course with guides for how to use tools in BlazeVIEW; search for "VSU BlazeVIEW Student Tutorial 2021."

Covid operating guidelines: <https://www.valdosta.edu/campus-operations/>

Biology Tutoring: The Academic Support Center (ASC) at Valdosta State University is located on the second floor of the Odum Library. The ASC provides free peer tutoring in core curriculum courses, including biology. Call 333-7570 to make an appointment, or visit their website at <https://www.valdosta.edu/asc/>

Privacy Act (FERPA): The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) prohibits the public posting of grades by social security number or in any manner personally identifiable to the individual student. No grades can be given over the telephone or over email because positive identification can't be made.

Access Statement: Students with disabilities who are experiencing barriers in this course may contact the Access Office for assistance in determining and implementing reasonable accommodations. The Access Office is located in Farbar Hall. The phone numbers are 229-245-2498 (V), 229-375-5871 (VP) and 229-219-1348 (TTY). For more information, please visit VSU's Access Office or email: access@valdosta.edu.

Title IX Statement: Valdosta State University (VSU) is committed to creating a diverse and inclusive work and learning environment free from discrimination and harassment. VSU is dedicated to creating an environment where all campus community members feel valued, respected, and included. Valdosta State University prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, ethnicity, national origin, sex (including pregnancy status, sexual harassment and sexual violence), sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, age, national origin, disability, genetic information, or veteran status, in the University's programs and activities as required by applicable laws and regulations such as Title IX. The individual designated with responsibility for coordination of compliance efforts and receipt of inquiries concerning nondiscrimination policies is the University's Title IX Coordinator: Maggie Viverette, Director of the Office of Social Equity, titleix@valdosta.edu, 1208 N. Patterson St., Valdosta State University, Valdosta, Georgia 31608, 229-333-5463.

Campus Gun Carry Statement (HB 280): If you choose to carry a concealed weapon on campus, you are responsible for knowing and following the law. Refer here for FAQ: <https://www.valdosta.edu/administration/finance-admin/police/campuscarry/>

TENTATIVE LAB SCHEDULE

WEEK	DATE	TOPIC
1	Aug. 16 – 19	Course intro and syllabus review
2	Aug. 23 – 27	Lab 1: Intro to sci. method & basic statistics
3	Aug. 30 – Sept. 3	Lab 2: Basic Light Microscopy
4	Sept. 6 – 10	Labor Day week: NO LABS
5	Sept. 13 – 17	Lab 3: Microscopy of Living Organisms
6	Sept. 20 – 24	Lab 4: Data collection for microscopy project
7	Sept. 27 – Oct. 1	Lab 5: Cellular water relations
8	Oct. 4 – 8	Lab 6: Protein extraction & Quantification from living tissue
9	Oct. 11 – 15	Fall Break: NO LABS
10	Oct. 18 – 22	Lab 7: Enzymology – basics of amylase activity
11	Oct. 25 – 29	Lab 8: Photosynthesis
12	Nov. 1 – 5	Lab 9: Cellular reproduction
13	Nov. 8 – 12	Lab 10: Crime scene, RFLP & gel electrophoresis
14	Nov. 15 – 19	Lab 11: Transformation of pGLO plasmid into Bacteria
15	Nov. 22 – 26	Thanksgiving Break – NO LABS

The syllabus is tentative and is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor!!!