Valdosta State University, BIOL 1108, Section A (3 credit hours)
Principles of Biology II, SPRING 2021
Syllabus and Course Policies

Lecture: Student Union, room 03216 – MW 3:30-4:45 PM
Lecture Instructor: Eric Chambers (Dr. Chambers); Office: BSC 2214 Phone: 229-249-2736
Email: ewchambers@valdosta.edu

Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays @10:00 – 11:00 AM or by Appointment

Embedded Tutor: Tod Butenschon

Course Description: An introduction to physiological processes in plants and animals. Structure, nutrition, transport, coordination, reproduction, and development will be addressed.

Required Materials:

1. **Textbook:** Life: The Science of Biology 11th edition. If you did not opt out of the Day 1 program you should already have access to this textbook along with other digital course materials associated with the textbook (via Blazeview). The Day 1 program allows the university to negotiate an excellent discount on materials for the students. The charge was added to your student account when you registered for the course. As of the first day of class, you should have access to these materials. If you opted out of the Day program, please contact me. You can opt into the program or we can discuss other options for purchasing the textbook.

I will show you how to access the textbook through Blazeview in our first lecture.

2. **Interactive Response System** (select **ONE** of the two options)
   a) Turning technologies Mobile phone app & 1 yr. account (approx. $24.99)
   b) Turning Technologies QT Clicker Device & Turn Tech 1yr Acct (approx. $49.98)

Course goals: The purpose of this course is to provide you with a broad introduction to the study of biology. The course is introductory and topical in nature but upon completion of this course you will be prepared for advanced specialized courses in biology. It will also provide you with a background to better understand many of the technological issues and challenges confronting our nation and the world.

This course will focus on understanding the physiology of major systems in plants and animals. You will learn common experimental tools and techniques used in physiology. An emphasis will be placed on learning how to analyze basic biological data using quantitative tools such as Excel.

This course will assist you in developing communication skills as well as information processing skills. These abilities are critical for all students, both those who wish to attend professional school (medical, dental, etc.) and graduate school as well as those who will move directly into the job market following graduation. Your critical thinking skills will be enhanced through analysis of lab exercises, class assignments, and test questions.

Educational outcomes: Listed at the end of syllabus

Explanation of Lecture Assignments:

Lecture Exams: A total of 4-unit exams and one cumulative final exam will be given during the semester. The dates are included in the tentative schedule at the end of the syllabus. All exams, including the final, will be multiple-choice. Make-up exams will be considered on an individual basis. Students may not take exams early, with the exception of students with a university-related or religious excuse. The unit exams are not cumulative.

Interactive response questions: In this course you will utilize interactive response technology in order to be more engaged with the material during lecture. These questions will provide you a chance to receive immediate feedback on your understanding and interpretation of important biological principles. Questions will begin during the second week of class. You will utilize either clicker devices or your mobile phone to answer the questions.

Grading on clicker questions will be 1 point for an answer and 0 points for not answering (for any reason-including but not limited to dead battery, forgot clicker, absent from class). Individual clicker assessments will be posted to Blazeview following the lecture.

You are expected to complete 80% of the clicker questions.

LearningCurve online assignments: LearningCurve is an adaptive quizzing and personalized homework program available at the LaunchPad web site. LearningCurve adaptive quizzing gives each student individualized question sets and feedback based on their correct and incorrect responses. All the questions link back to the e-book to encourage students to read the book in preparation for class-time and exams. You are to complete a LearningCurve assignment for each textbook chapter that we cover. Exam dates serve as the deadline. In other words, if exam #1 covers chapters one through four you would have until the exam date to complete the assignment for all four chapters. **I strongly suggest you complete the LearningCurve assignments before we discuss the chapter in lecture or immediately upon completion of the chapter in lecture.** LearningCurve assignments are completed by attaining a **Target Score** established by the instructor. The number of questions you must complete are based upon your ability to select the correct answer for each question. **Grading on LearningCurve will be 5 points for achieving the Target Score and 0 points for not achieving the Target Score.**

You are expected to complete 80% of the LearningCurve Assignments.

Extra Credit: There will be opportunities to earn extra credit during the semester.

Course Grade:

I will automatically drop your lowest grade. This could be any of the unit exams, the final exam, or the combined clicker/interactive response questions. This means your lecture grade will be based on a total of 500 possible points.

Grade Scale: For Biology majors a grade of C or higher is required for this course.
A 90-100% (450-500 points)
B 80-89% (400-449 points)
C 70-79% (350-399 points)
D 60-69% (300-349 points)
F < 60% (0-299 points)

Notes on grading: Students should note that a grade of "A" in this course represents an exemplary command of the material covered. To obtain this grade of excellence, it is recommended that students study daily and clarify with their instructor any problems regarding course information, as they arise.

Biology Tutoring: The Student Success Center (SSC) at Valdosta State University is located in Langdale Residence Hall above the Tech Shop and is available to all students. The SSC provides free peer tutoring in core curriculum courses, including biology, chemistry, math, writing, and foreign languages. The SSC also provides free professional academic advising and on-campus job information in one location. Call 333-7570 to make an appointment, or visit the website: www.valdosta.edu/ssc.

General Rules:
Attendance: I will **NOT** be splitting the section into groups and assigning days to attend lecture. You can attend lectures each day on a first come, first serve basis. We have 164 students enrolled in the section and the lecture hall seats 152. Based on typical attendance patterns from semesters past and the possibility that several students will always be in quarantine throughout the semester, it is very unlikely that you will not be able to find a seat for lecture.

I will be taping each lecture and posting it in Blazeview via Collaborate Ultra.

Seating in the lecture hall is arranged so that social distancing requirements can be met. You are also required to wear your mask during lecture. Please make sure it covers your mouth **AND** nose (the virus that causes COVID19 loves ciliated epithelial cells and your nasal passages are lined with these types of cells!)

It is very important that you attend lecture in order to earn your rapid response points!

Academic conduct: Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated and may result in a failing grade for the assignment, exam or the class.

For example: If I see your phone out on your desk or in your lap or under your thighs, or being concealed and used in any manner, I will quietly request your exam, excuse you from the exam hall, and you will, **at a minimum**, receive a 0 on that exam.

Lecture Conduct:
Arrive on time
- Quickly find a seat
- Do not congregate in hall-way outside of class nor in the aisles of the lecture hall

- Do not move the desks—they have been positioned so as to ensure proper physical distancing
- Turn off/silence cell phones during class and lab.
- Remove headphones and earbuds while in lecture, lab, and ruing exams.
- Don't talk during lecture except during active learning exercises or asking a question
- Avoid leaving class early
- You and you alone use your clicker in class. If your clicker is found in the possession of another student both of you will lose all your clicker points for the semester!
- Do not leave lecture hall until you are dismissed—we will dismiss students in the rear of room first—then those near the front

Procedure for exams:

- No books, electronic devices, or notebooks will be allowed during exams and students using such items will be asked to leave and will receive a zero for the exam.
- No talking will be allowed during the exam, but students are permitted to ask the instructor questions.
- Each student will be given an exam to be completed and handed back to the instructor.
- Students must bring a pencil and will take the exam during the stated lecture time only.
- **NOTE:** You will have the class time only to complete each lecture exam.

Student identification: Students should have in their possession at all times their VSU student identification card. Because of the large size of the class this semester we will be checking student ID or another form of picture ID during exams.

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@valosta.edu, 1208 N. Patterson St., Valdosta State University, Valdosta, Georgia 31608, 229-333-5463.

Tentative Lecture and Exam Schedule, BIOL 1108, Section A, Spring 2021

Date	Topic	Chapter
Jan. 11	Course Intro; Phylogenies	21
Jan. 13	Phylogenies/Homeostasis	21/39
Jan. 18	**Martin Luther King Jr Day/ No Class**	---
Jan. 20	Physiology and Homeostasis/Animal Hormones	39/40
Jan. 25	Animal Hormones	40
Jan. 27	Animal Reproduction	42
Feb. 1	Animal Reproduction/Neurons and Nervous System	42/44
Feb. 3	Neurons and Nervous System	44
Feb. 8	**Exam #1**	**21, 39, 40, 42, 44**
Feb. 10	Musculoskeletal	47
Feb. 15	Musculoskeletal/Gas Exchange	47/48
Feb. 17	Gas Exchange	48
Feb. 22	Circulatory System	49
Feb. 24	Circulatory System/Nutrition and Digestion	49/50
Mar. 1	Nutrition and Digestion	50
Mar. 3	Excretory System	51
Mar. 8	**Exam #2**	**47, 48, 49, 50, 51**
Mar. 10	Plants without seeds/The Evolution of Seed Plants	27
Mar. 15	Evolution of Seed Plants	28
Mar. 17	**Wellness Day #2 – No Class**	**--**
Mar. 22	The Plant Body	33
Mar. 24	The Plant Body	33
Mar. 29	Transport in Plants	34
Mar. 31	Transport in Plants	34
Apr. 5	**Exam #3 (Group A)**	**27, 28, 29, 34**
Apr. 7	Plant Nutrition	35
Apr. 12	Plant Nutrition/Regulation of Plant Growth	35/36
Apr. 14	Regulation of Plant Growth	36
Apr. 19	Plant Reproduction	37
Apr. 21	Plant Reproduction/Plant responses	37/38
Apr. 26	Plant responses and Environmental Challenges	38
Apr. 28	**Exam #4**	**35, 36, 37, 38**
May 4	**Wellness Day #5**	**--**
May 6	**Final Exam (2:45-4:45)**	**Cumulative**

Valdosta State University General Educational Outcomes (GEO)

1. Students will demonstrate understanding of the society of the United States and its ideals.
2. Students will demonstrate cross-cultural perspectives and knowledge of other societies.
3. Students will use computer and information technology when appropriate.
4. Students will express themselves clearly, logically and precisely in writing and in speaking, and they will demonstrate competence in reading and listening.
5. Students will demonstrate knowledge of scientific and mathematical principles and proficiency in laboratory practices.
6. Students will demonstrate knowledge of diverse cultural heritages in the arts, the humanities, and the social sciences.
7. Students will demonstrate the ability to analyze, to evaluate, and to make inferences from oral, written and visual materials.
8. Students will demonstrate knowledge of principles of ethics and their employment in the analysis and resolution of moral problems.
9. Students will demonstrate understanding of the physical universe and the nature of science, and they will use scientific methods and/or mathematical reasoning and concepts to solve problems.

Department of Biology Educational Outcomes (BEO)

1. Develop and test hypotheses, collect and analyze data, and present the results and conclusions in both written and oral format used in peer- reviewed journals and at scientific meetings.
2. Describe the evolutionary process responsible for biological diversity, explain the phylogenetic relationships among the other taxa of life, and provide illustrative examples.
3. Demonstrate an understanding of the cellular basis of life.
4. Relate the structure and function of DNA/RNA to the development of form and function of the organism and to heredity
5. Interpret ecological data pertaining to the behavior of the individual organism in its natural environment; to the structure and function of populations, communities, and ecosystems; and to human impacts on these systems and the environment.