

Smart Path Core Online - BIOLOGY 1040 Lab (CRN 50695) – Summer 2023

Access to the class via VSU Blazeview begins June 7th, 2023

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CATALOG DESCRIPTION: This is an online version of courses meeting core requirements as listed in the VSU student catalogue as described below:

BIOL 1040L. Organismal Biology Lab. 1 Hour.

Corequisite: **BIOL 1030**. This course cannot be taken for credit toward the major in biology. A laboratory course to accompany Biology 1030, emphasizing the structure of multicellular organisms. This course focusses on the chemical and cellular level of organization, genetics and organ systems of living things.

COURSE OBJECTIVES: This course fulfills one portion of Area D of the Learning Outcomes for Valdosta State University's Core Curriculum: 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.

(<http://www.valdosta.edu/gec/ProposedNewLearningOutcomes.shtml>) Specifically, students will:

- a. Learn about the nature of science and how to build scientific knowledge;
- b. Demonstrate a fundamental knowledge of the chemical and cellular basis of life;
- c. Relate the structure and the function of DNA/RNA to the development of form and function of the organism and to heredity;
- d. Effectively organize, communicate and apply their knowledge of biology to their everyday lives.

More specific course exercise objectives and goals are listed at the beginning of each individual “**Labster**”[™] online lab simulation.

LAB MATERIALS: The Biology 1040 01P Smartpath lab **requires that you purchase a license (\$99.00) to access online laboratory simulations provided by “Labster”[™] Company** (<https://www.labster.com/>). See the lab syllabus and specific instructions posted on the BIOL 1040 Blazeview site for detailed instructions on registering for and using “**Labster**”[™]. You can set up your account with a credit card or by using student aid to purchase a license voucher number from the VSU Bookstore.

You will be receiving an email with a link to setup your account.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION: This lab is conducted online by requiring the student to conduct exercises and experiments in a simulated laboratory environment. As the student proceeds through each exercise they are scored on background information, results and methods by ongoing quizzing during the exercises. At the end of an exercise the quiz questions answers are compiled and scored for a grade that is reported to the instructor. If a student makes multiple attempts at completing a lab their average score will be used as their final grade for that lab. Students are given the necessary background information and theory in a reference section. In order to do well in this lab the student will need to thoroughly understand the theory, background, actual simulation procedures and results.

GRADING: The grade for lab is a standalone 1 credit hour grade. It is not averaged into the 3-hour lecture grade for BIOL 1030. Lab scores will be averaged together to get an overall lab average. Lab grades will be assigned based on that score using a 100 Point scale:

A: 90 – 100%, B: 80 – 89%, C: 70 – 79%, D: 60 – 69%, F: < 60% .

Lab simulations: There will be fourteen labs over the course of the semester. **Your final lab grade will be determined by the twelve highest lab grades.** Instructions will be given on the labster website. If there is a technical issue with the simulations, it is your responsibility to reach out to tech support.

OFFICE HOURS & COMMUNICATION:

Email: Email is the simplest and primary way to contact me outside of class and is the quickest way for me to contact you as well. All email should be sent directly to joshuabrown@valdosta.edu. You are required to check and maintain your Valdosta State University email account regularly. I **Do NOT recommend email using the Blazeview system.**

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/>

MID-TERM, OR IN-PROGRESS GRADES: The instructor is required to submit in-progress grades prior to mid-term as posted. In theory, a mid-term grade is necessary for a student to assess how s/he is doing in class by midterm. In this course, students will have feedback on at least one major exam by midterm, several lab quizzes, lab assignments, and any homework or writing assignments. The instructor will, in general, assign an overall average grade at this point on the normal scale of A-F viewable on Banner. Students receiving a grade of “D” or lower should therefore carefully evaluate their option of dropping this course by midterm without academic penalty.

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 by email or over the telephone, as positive identification cannot be made by this manner.

Accommodations Statement:

Students with disabilities who are experiencing barriers in this course may contact the Access Office (<https://www.valdosta.edu/student/disability/>) for assistance in determining and implementing reasonable accommodations. The Access Office is located in University Center Room 4136 Entrance 5. The phone numbers are 229-245-2498 (V), 229-375-5871. For more information, please visit VSU’s Access Office or email: access@valdosta.edu. To request reasonable accommodations for pregnancy and childbirth, contact Christina Kidd, Student Conduct Coordinator at chkidd@valdosta.edu. Please note, you will be required to provide documentation from an appropriately licensed medical professional indicating the requested accommodations are medically necessary.

Non-Discrimination and Title IX Statement

Valdosta State University (VSU) upholds all applicable laws and policies regarding discrimination on the basis of race, color, sex (including sexual harassment and pregnancy), sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, national origin, religion, age, veteran status, political affiliation, or disability. The University prohibits specific forms of behavior that violate Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972. Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in education programs and activities that receive federal funding. VSU considers sex discrimination in any form to be a serious offense. Title IX refers to all forms of sex discrimination committed against others, including but not limited to: sexual harassment, sexual assault, sexual misconduct, and sexual violence by other employees, students or third parties and gender inequity or unfair treatment based on an individual’s sex/gender. The designated Title IX Coordinator for VSU is Mr. Darius Thomas. To view the full policy or to report an incident visit: <https://www.valdosta.edu/administration/student-affairs/title-ix/>

See Lab Class Schedule in getting started and use it to remain aware of due dates.