

**BIOL 1010 c, Introduction to Biology: The Evolution and Diversity of Life.**

Fall Semester, 2011

Course Description: An introduction to modern biology for the non-major with special emphasis on the relationships between organisms and their evolutionary ties. Co-requisite BIOL 1020 (lab). Prerequisites: NA

**Instructor: C. Heather Colson Hardy, DMD**

**Phone: 229-242-2449 ofc**

**E-mail: chardy@valdosta.edu**

**Mondays 6-8:40PM, BSC 1024**

**Office: 111 Woodrow Wilson Drive**

The best method of contacting me is e-mail; however, you are welcome to contact my office and leave a message with my staff. I will return your call/email as soon as possible.

**TEXTBOOK:** *Biology: Concepts and Investigations, First Edition.* Mariëlle Hoefnagels.

\*Please note, this textbook is a **requirement**. It is not a suggestion. A portion of each exam will be taken directly from your reading texts, even if it was not explicitly reviewed in class.

**EVALUATION AND GRADING SYSTEM:**

Your grade will be determined by your performance on all graded assignments/quizzes, one research paper, 4 exams and the final exam.

**GRADING POLICY:**

Lecture exams: 100 points X 4 exams	400 points
Research Paper	100 points
Quizzes 10 points X 10 quizzes	100 points
Assignments	200 points
Cumulative Final Exam	+ <u>200 points</u>
TOTAL Grade	1000 points

Your final grade is based on the standard scale. A: 900-1000 points; B: 800-899 points; C: 700-799 points; D: 600-699 points; F: 0-599 points, though I may uniformly lower the scale a point or two, depending on the distribution at the end of the semester.

Missing an exam or quiz is strongly discouraged. If you miss an exam, you must have a valid excuse and notify me prior to the scheduled exam in order to make it up. It is solely your responsibility to make arrangements for a make-up exam; I will not hunt you down. You must notify me of any missed exams immediately (within 24 hours) and make arrangements within three (3) business days to take a make-up. If you have not contacted me within 24 hours of missing the exam you will receive a 0% for that exam. Make up exams will be more difficult and may consist of oral, short answer, and/or essay type questions at my discretion. They will be given at a time convenient to both the instructor and student.

**ASSIGNMENTS/EXTRA-CREDIT POLICY:**

Several assignments will be given throughout the semester. They will be worth a total of 200 points. You will be awarded credit based on the length and content of these pieces. Your responses must be more than "cut-and-paste" blurbs, and you **MUST** cite all of your references (when necessary)—journals, newspapers, magazines, books, television series. If a citation is required and you do not provide one, you will **not** receive credit. A time limit will be set on each assignment and they will be taken no later than the due date. You may turn it in early.

One research paper will be required this semester. You must cite sources or you will receive a zero for your work. Any website sources must be credible. If you have questions, ask me. Copies of your research should be included when the project is turned in. You will not be graded on length, but on your ability to fully address the topic and provide cited material to back up your stance. Your paper is due on or before the last class day. You may turn it in early.

## Department of Biology, College of Arts & Sciences, Valdosta State University

**Five (5)** additional points come from attendance. If you are here every day of the semester, you will *automatically* earn 5 points. If you miss a day, you will receive no credit. I will **not** give partial credit on this. Beware....attendance will be taken at random times during the class. If you leave class before I check, or you come in later, you will not be given a point. Take home point: be here on time, and don't leave until class is dismissed.

### **Attendance:**

It's expected, so be here. I understand the concept of emergencies. If you have one, let me know. Per VSU guidelines, (1) "A student who misses more than 20% of the scheduled classes [**THREE CLASSES**] of a course will be subject to receiving a failing grade in the course." (2) "Instructors may assign a 'W' on the proof roll for students not attending class. It is the responsibility of the student to complete the withdrawal process.... The instructor may assign a grade of 'W' or 'WF' after mid-term." (3) "Any student who discontinues class attendance after mid-term and does not officially withdraw may be assigned a grade of 'F'."

**Academic Honesty:** Please refer to the Conduct Code and the Department Plagiarism Policy (<http://www.valdosta.edu/judicial/AcademicStudentConductCode.shtml> and <http://www.valdosta.edu/biology/documents/biologyplagiarism.doc> respectively). A brief run-down....Do not copy illustrations and pass them off as your own. Always cite your sources. Do not cheat. Do not borrow answers from your neighbors. Do not allow another student take the test for you. Be aware: there will be absolutely NO tolerance of cheating. If you are caught, you will be reported to the Office of the Dean of Students, you will also receive a ZERO on that assignment, and you may fail this course.

**Behavior:** You are in college; therefore, you will be treated as an adult. In exchange, I require the following from you:

- Refrain from talking and disrupting those who want to learn.
- You will be expected to sit in your assigned seat. This is how roll will be taken. If you're in someone else's seat, they get credit—you do not.
- Cell phones/pagers must be turned on vibrate. You will get a 10 minute break during class. You may call or text whomever you please at that time. **If** you are expecting an important call please let me know before class and you will be allowed to leave class to answer your call. If you talk on your phone or text during my class, you will be asked to leave, and you will receive a zero as your daily/quiz grade.
- No ipods.
- If you use a laptop, I require you to sit in the first row. (no facebooking, tweeting, etc, or you will be asked to leave class and you will receive a zero for your daily/quiz grade.)
- If you disrupt the class, you will be removed from the class and possibly dropped from the course.
- No hats/caps will be allowed during examinations/quizzes. If you must wear a cap/hat, it must be turned around during test-taking. Also, cell phones and other technological devices must be stored in purses, bags, pockets, etc during examinations/quizzes. If I see them on your desk, I will assume the worst. If these rules are not obeyed, you will receive 0/100 points.

### **ADA POLICY:**

Students requiring classroom accommodations or modifications because of a documented disability should discuss this need with the instructor at the beginning of the semester. Students not registered with the Special Services Program, should contact the Special Service Office, Nevins Hall 1115 (245-2498)

### **WITHDRAWAL FROM COURSE:**

Students are advised to consult the VSU Undergraduate Bulletin and the VSU Fall 2011 Schedule of classes for information about VSU policies and procedures. **Last day to withdraw is October 6, 2011.**

### **FEDERAL PRIVACY ACT:**

It is illegal to release personal information about an individual to others. Therefore grades, averages, and other personal information about any person will not be released to another person or over email.

## Tentative Schedule

<b>Chapter</b>	<b>Topic (Tentative)</b>
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1	Intro to Biology
11	Forces of Evolutionary Change
12	Evidence of Evolution
13	Speciation and Extinction
14	Origins and the History of Life
	<b>Exam 1</b>
15	Viruses
16	Bacteria and Archaea
17	Protists
18	Plants
	<b>Exam 2</b>
19	Fungi
20	Animals
	<b>Exam 3</b>
35	Animal Behavior
36	Population Ecology
37	Community Ecology
38	Biomes and Climate Change
39	Preserving Biodiversity
	<b>Exam 4</b>

Important Dates to remember:

8/15/11	First Day of Class
8/15-19/11	End of Late Registration
9/5/11	Labor Day Holiday
10/6/11	Midterm, last day to Withdraw from Class
11/23-25/11	Thanksgiving Holidays
12/5/11	Last Day of Class
12/6/11	Dead Day
12/7/11	5pm, Final Examination*